

Dragon War God

- Chapter 871 – The King of Ten Thousand Nations -

That ice-cold glare worried both the Long-Bearded Guest and Ancestor Jin, and they quickly took a few steps back. They initially thought that they could kill Bai Lan quickly, but to their surprise, he had proven difficult to kill.

When they backed off, the duel paused for a moment.

When Long Chen saw Bai Lan's injuries, rage rose in his heart.

That was when he strode towards the dueling trio. The floor was made of black crystal, and colorful light bounced off it, making it look dazzlingly beautiful. There were also many ancient carvings on the surrounding walls, such as bloodthirsty humans, violent beasts, and more.

When the trio heard his footsteps, they were startled.

There should have only been three of them on the seventh floor. When they heard another set of footsteps, they were shaken.

"Who is it?" someone shouted.

A handsome teenager with an evil sneer slowly emerged from the darkness. When they looked closer, they realized that it was Long Chen!

"Long Chen!"

The three of them cried at the same time. The happiest person was Bai Lan, as he thought Long Chen had died. He had returned, and he was unharmed too.

This was an unexpected twist to Ancestor Jin and the Long-Bearded Guest. They recalled another person and started to grow cautious.

"Long Chen, where is Wu Lian? Wasn't she with you? Is she behind you?"

They assumed that if Long Chen had escaped his predicament unharmed, then Wu Lian had done the same. All three of them were almost completely exhausted after climbing to the seventh floor. If Wu Lian appeared now, she could surely suppress them all and take the Five Emperors' treasure for herself!

They had worked very hard to get here. Who would be willing to see the treasure get taken away when they were so close?

Ancestor Jin looked past Long Chen. “Wu Lian, since you are here, you might as well come out. A person of your rank should not be hiding.”

The three of them stood in a triangle, and no one went to the Prismatic Door first. They were on guard against Wu Lian, as well as everyone else.

Although Ancestor Jin had shouted for her, nothing happened behind Long Chen.

“That’s enough. She’s not here,” said Long Chen, chuckling.

“She’s not here? Where did she go? If you could come here, why isn’t she here?” Ancestor Jin asked angrily.

“If I said I killed her, would you believe me?” Long Chen squinted, looking at Ancestor Jin fiercely.

“Killed her? Haha, is that a joke?” Ancestor Jin laughed.

“There must be a problem with your brain,” said the Long-Bearded Guest, annoyed. How could a junior like Long Chen speak to them with that kind of tone?

Bai Lan’s face slowly changed. He sensed that Long Chen’s aura was different.

Is that the aura of the Heavenly Martial Realm? Bai Lan was overjoyed.

He knew that when Long Chen was at the Ninth Earthly Martial Stage, he could kill a First Heavenly Martial Stage cultivator. Now that he had reached the Heavenly Martial Realm, maybe he could take on one of the enemies.

However, he was still worried about one thing—where was Wu Lian?

“Long Chen, can you deal with the Long-Bearded Guest?” Bai Lan asked in a low voice.

When they heard this, both Ancestor Jin and the Long-Bearded Guest’s faces changed. Long Chen and Bai Lan had a solid relationship. It was going to be difficult to deal with both of them. Their only comfort was that Long Chen had not reached their level yet.

Long Chen walked over, and his gaze swept across them. He directly said, “Uncle Bai, take a rest. I’ll finish these two off for you.”

Bai Lan was privately shocked. He stared at Long Chen. Knowing that Long Chen never lied, he wondered if the teenager really was strong enough.

He recalled that Long Chen had mysteriously disappeared, then mysteriously appeared again. Something must have happened during that time that allowed his cultivation to advance greatly!

“Go ahead!”

Bai Lan agreed directly. If Long Chen couldn’t do it, he could still enter the fight!

With Long Chen’s help, the results would be much better. At the very least, he would lessen Bai Lan’s burden for a short while.

Listening to the conversation between them, Ancestor Jin and the Long-Bearded Guest looked at each other, then laughed. Ancestor Jin said, “In that case, let me deal with this kid. Brother Long-Beard, just wait here, it’ll be quick. Then we’ll finish Bai Lan together. Neither of us can fully digest the Five Emperors’ treasure, so when the time comes, let’s divide the treasure equally. What do you think?”

“Ancestor Jin, do what you need to do! I’ll keep an eye on Bai Lan while you do that!” said the Long-Bearded Guest with a smile.

This was a critical moment, and every decision would influence the final owner of the Five Emperors’ treasure.

“Long Chen, death awaits you!” Ancestor Jin did not dare stray too far away from his current position, or it would be too troublesome to get to the Prismatic Door.

“Is that so?”

Long Chen’s aura transformed greatly. The quiet teenager erupted with an aura as strong as a Second Heavenly Martial Stage cultivator. The thickness of his aura even surpassed everyone present, and he had not even used the Dragon Soul Transformation yet.

“Three Thousand Star Clusters!”

Whoosh! The spear, which was half gold and half black now, appeared in Long Chen’s hand. A burning heat erupted from half of it, while the other half was extremely cold!

“Heavenly Martial Realm!”

Both Ancestor Jin and the Long-Bearded Guest’s faces changed!

“Have you only just realized it?” Long Chen played with the Three Thousand Star Clusters in his hand, looking at Ancestor Jin with a smile.

“So what if you’ve reached the Heavenly Martial Realm at a young age? You will still die. Hurry up and use your Beast Soul Transformation. Don’t waste my time,” said Ancestor Jin with a menacing laugh.

“I don’t need to transform to deal with you,” Long Chen said softly. Then he flickered!

“He’s so fast!”

Long Chen moved so quickly that it stunned Ancestor Jin. Even he could not move that fast!

The Yin Yang Sword Root multiplied his attack power by ten times!

“Solar Golden Ancestor Punch!”

Long Chen’s great speed scared Ancestor Jin, so he hurriedly used his most powerful technique. His attack shot out menacingly and condensed into a gigantic, solid fist. It was golden and dazzling, and it flew at Long Chen with a loud *rumble*!

“Break!” Long Chen cried.

He activated all the power in the Three Thousand Star Clusters. One casual thrust of the spear from Long Chen was equivalent to a Third Heavenly Martial Stage cultivator’s strongest attack. The tip of the spear pierced through Ancestor Jin’s fist and penetrated his shoulder like an invisible needle!

“Ah!”

Ancestor Jin screamed in agony!

Long Chen turned his spear with great strength, pinning the old man to the floor. Large cracks appeared on the floor where the Three Thousand Star Clusters pierced through.

Ancestor Jin’s face was pale as he cried out in pain.

Long Chen stood next to him with a smile.

The other two were shocked.

He finished Ancestor Jin in just one move? Has Long Chen far surpassed Ancestor Jin and us? Bai Lan and the Long-Bearded Guest were stunned.

Long Chen did not kill Ancestor Jin. If he wanted to, he would have thrust the spear into his head instead of his shoulder.

"This is ..." The Long-Bearded Guest's face turned green. He pointed at Long Chen weakly, unsure of what to say.

Bai Lan knew that Long Chen would be very strong, but not this strong!

With this current strength, he could easily kill me. Am I hallucinating?

He has reached the Second Heavenly Martial Stage after going missing for a very short time, and he has combat abilities far beyond his current level. What happened?

His mind was a mess.

However, this was an amazing thing to him. Although Bai Lan also wanted the Five Emperors' treasure, he would be satisfied if it ended up in Long Chen's hands.

The one in most disbelief was Ancestor Jin. He was the one who had directly faced Long Chen's attack, and he knew how terrifying Long Chen was. Long Chen had casually defeated his most powerful attack, even giving him a near-fatal injury. His shoulder was burning, and it had been pierced cleanly through. He would not be able to use any combat techniques for at least a month.

"I don't want to kill anyone today, so I will leave you alive. Therefore, you'd better be good. You may be my senior, but in this world, the strongest one wins. Right now, my strength far surpasses yours, so you shouldn't talk about rank now. If you move, I will send you to hell in just one breath," Long Chen said mildly, looking down at Ancestor Jin.

Ancestor Jin nodded. He completely submitted to this unstoppable force.

"I have lost. I, Ancestor Jin, shall resign from the fight for the Five Emperors' treasure! The Five Elements Alliance resigns!"

"Good." Long Chen chuckled, then he turned to the Long-Bearded Guest and asked, "What about you? What's your decision?"

The Long-Bearded Guest took two steps back and looked at him in a panic, then at Ancestor Jin's tragic state. He gave a weak smile and said, "You are peerless in the Ten Thousand Nations Territory now. Once we return home, you can even become the King of Ten Thousand Nations. I, Long-Beard, completely submit to you!"

The King of Ten Thousand Nations.

If he returned to the Ten Thousand Nations Territory, he would be fit for a title like that.

However, he was still young, and the Ten Thousand Nations Territory was not where he wanted to be.

“Long Chen ...” Bai Lan looked at the young man, unsure of what to say.

“Go take the Five Emperors’ treasure, then.”

After Long Chen’s casual display of strength, the trio did not dare move.

Long Chen looked at the Prismatic Door. Feng Yangzi once warned him not to touch the things inside.

Therefore, the Five Emperors’ treasure must be somewhere else.

He said to Bai Lan, “Sure. You should tend to your injuries first.”

When Long Chen helped Bai Lan tend to his injuries, there was a sudden flash of determination in the Long-Bearded Guest’s eyes, then the Long-Bearded Guest charged towards the Prismatic Door!

Tip: You can use left, right keyboard keys to browse between chapters.

Chapter 872 - The True Treasure

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Bai Lan shouted, “Long Chen!”

Long Chen could’ve easily blocked the Long-Bearded Guest with his speed, so Bai Lan chose to just warn him.

The Long-Bearded Guest had surrendered earlier. Who would’ve guessed that he would risk his life to charge into the Prismatic Door?

But Long Chen ignored Bai Lan’s warning. He watched as the Long-Bearded Guest ran into the doorway instead of stopping him.

“Long Chen! What are you doing?”

Both Bai Lan and the Ancestor Jin were shocked to see that Long Chen was not going to stop the Long-Bearded Guest. Long Chen had allowed the Five Emperors’ treasure, the most important treasure of the Ten Thousand Nations Territory, to be taken by the Long-Bearded Guest. Had Long Chen gone mad?

Long Chen looked at them, feigning an expression of helplessness. “I was distracted. I will chase after him now. The door is still open after all.”

Long Chen took a few steps before he stopped and glared at Ancestor Jin.

“Don’t try anything funny while I’m in there.”

Even though the Long-Bearded Guest was already inside the door, Long Chen still took the time to warn Ancestor Jin. His smile made Ancestor Jin shiver.

“You’ve already crippled one of my arms. What can I possibly do?” Ancestor Jin smiled bitterly. “Just go. I will not forgive you if you let the Long-Bearded Guest take the Five Emperors’ treasure.”

“Long Chen, don’t worry. He won’t be able to do anything with me guarding him.”

Long Chen actually preferred to kill him, but if he did, the Ten Thousand Nations Territory would be in chaos. Even more people would end up dying, so Long Chen decided not to.

Bai Lan was stating the truth, since he could actually guard over Ancestor Jin. Long Chen said nothing as he ran into the Prismatic Door. The door had not closed just because someone had entered it. This meant that there was still a chance for Long Chen to obtain the treasure.

Feng Yangzi warned me to not touch the thing inside the door. Why? What else could be in here except for the treasure?

Feng Yangzi had given Long Chen strength. He had asked Long Chen to exact revenge for him, so there was no way he would harm Long Chen. That meant he had a good reason for telling him not to touch the thing inside the Prismatic Door.

Was it really a treasure?

If it really was the Five Emperors’ treasure, would Long Chen really not touch it?

Long Chen was confused.

He entered the door and saw a long and dark corridor. The Long-Bearded Guest must’ve been worried about Long Chen chasing after him, so he ran as fast as he could through the tunnel.

Long Chen ran as fast as he could too.

Inside the tunnels were various murals similar to the ones outside. They depicted ancient humans, and also strong demons. It was clear that the two sides were fighting against each other.

Within the crowd of humans were five dazzling figures. They floated in the air and each gave off a different light. The lights were of varying brightness, and it appeared that they once had color. Long Chen was certain that the five figures were the Five Emperors.

While Long Chen made his way through the tunnel, he touched the murals. He had a faint, familiar feeling when he came into contact with the ice-cold murals.

With his speed, he soon caught up with the Long-Bearded Guest. The latter was shocked when he sensed Long Chen's presence and began to sprint even faster. He was trying to struggle to the bitter end.

Soon, a faint light appeared at the end of the tunnel. The Long-Bearded Guest saw the light and found that there was a room at the end of the corridor. The treasure was most likely inside. The Long-Bearded Guest got excited when he thought of the treasure.

Once I get it, I will hide and cultivate in silence. The Ten Thousand Nations Territory will be mine. After all these years, I finally found the chance to turn my life around! The risk I've taken is finally going to pay off!

The Long-Bearded Guest's speed exploded as he dashed into the dimly lit room. Long Chen quickly followed, but he had no intention of touching the thing inside the room. He just wanted to see what was going to happen.

When the Long-Bearded Guest ran into the room, a prismatic film of light appeared and blocked Long Chen from entering. He could only peek through the translucent barrier to see what was happening inside.

The Long-Bearded Guest laughed maniacally when he realized he was safe!

"I'm very sorry, young man, but I will be taking the Five Emperors' treasure." He looked around and found that there was nothing in the room except for an old treasure chest.

The chest was not large, but it could fit a single person inside. It looked normal, but because of how abnormal it was to look normal, it gave off a dangerous allure that would tempt just about anyone to open it.

From the design of the chest, it appeared that it had originated from tens of thousands of years ago.

"Is that the Five Emperors' treasure?" The Long-Bearded Guest ignored Long Chen and touched the treasure chest lightly. He used all of his strength and realized that he could

not open it at all. There was a small, glimmering light in the keyhole. The light was made from complicated runes. The Long-Bearded Guest had no idea what to do here.

"I can't open it!" The Long-Bearded Guest was shocked to find that the chest was so sturdy that he was unable to open it despite using all his strength.

"That light... Is it a seal? It looks extremely complicated." The Long-Bearded Guest sighed in despair because he never thought something like this would happen.

Thankfully, the light barrier was preventing Long Chen from entering the room, so he could take his time to figure out how to open the chest.

Long Chen, on the other hand, was watching everything unfolding in the room,

The treasure shouldn't be in the chest. Feng Yangzi had warned him to not touch the thing inside the Prismatic Door. He was most likely referring to the chest.

Then where is the real treasure?

Long Chen turned around and ignored the Long-Bearded Guest. To him, the Long-Bearded Guest was just a pitiful cultivator who had fallen for Long Chen's trap. He never would've had the chance to reach the small room if Long Chen was serious.

Thankfully, Long Chen wasn't the one who had been trapped in the small room by the strange light barrier.

Where is the real treasure?

The Long-Bearded Guest was surprised to find that Long Chen had left him alone without a word.

Did he leave because he knew that he didn't have a chance? The Long-Bearded Guest chuckled as he continued to inspect the chest. He had a lot of time to slowly figure it out. Of course, it would be best if he could open it now. If not, he didn't mind escaping into the dense woods and spending the next ten years or so opening it.

He still had one of the Five Emperor Keys even though they had entered the Secret Realm. This meant that the Five Emperors intended to send the people out after they'd obtained the treasure.

Still, why wasn't I sent out even though I've obtained the treasure? The Long-Bearded Guest was confused. He ignored this question and continued to focus on the lock.

Maybe it's because I haven't unlocked the seal yet? I'm not sure how long that barrier of light will last, so I better pick up the pace.

In the tunnel outside, Long Chen was staring at the murals in confusion.

He touched the uneven murals to check them.

“This is the topmost floor. Feng Yangzi wanted me to get the treasure, which is why he sent me here. But where is it?”

Long Chen was still trying to figure out what was going on when he reached a mural that depicted the Five Emperors in their prime.

“Hey, idiot. Have you forgotten the Prismatic Key in the Primordial Realm?”

Little Cat took the chance to remind Long Chen about the key.

Long Chen was elated when he heard that. “Is that how we should use it? Maybe the Prismatic Key isn’t used to open the Secret Realm, but instead used to obtain the real treasure?”

He quickly took out the Prismatic Key. The glimmering key shone in five different colors and illuminated the murals in the dark tunnel.

“What is ...?”

When Long Chen took it out, he felt a strange presence.

It felt familiar, and it wrapped around him. The feeling was akin to when he saw an elder he respected when he was very young.

The Prismatic Key changed slightly. The five colors on the key separated and transformed into five different-colored orbs of light: gold, azure, black, red, and yellow. The five lights floated towards the mural on the wall like fireflies.

The lights embedded themselves in the mural, lighting the Five Emperors up in their respective colors. Long Chen felt like he had returned to the war that occurred tens of thousands of years ago.

Soldiers were shouting and crying. Standing within the army of humans were the five incredibly strong figures that sacrificed themselves to chase the massive demonic beast out of the Ten Thousand Nations Territory. That was how the Ancient Graveyard was formed.

The five lights on the mural suddenly expanded and absorbed Long Chen into it. It happened rapidly, and no one noticed what had happened to him inside the tunnel.

Tip: You can use left, right keyboard keys to browse between chapters.

Chapter 873 - Emperor's Manual

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The Long-Bearded Guest was still experimenting with the treasure chest. Outside of the Prismatic Door, Bai Lan was already standing up to guard Ancestor Jin. But because no one had exited from the door yet, they slowly became impatient.

"This is ..."

When the light faded from his eyes, Long Chen found himself in an expansive field of grass. The sky was blue and the sun was bright. There were shepherds guiding their sheep in the distance and horses ran freely on the horizon.

"Child."

Long Chen looked towards where the voice came from and saw four different balls of light. The four lights turned into four elders wearing the colors gold, azure, black, and yellow.

To think that they would each hold their respective colors even now.

"Seniors... Are you the Five Emperors from tens of thousands of years ago? I am your junior, Long Chen. Greetings!"

Long Chen respected them, so he had no qualms about being respectful.

But weren't there supposed to be five of them? Where was the last one?

As if sensing his confusion, the Golden Emperor explained, "Our fourth brother was the one who sent the Prismatic Key to you. He has long left us in order to send the key out of here. I suppose his Divine Martial Soul's power has long been exhausted."

Those at the Divine Martial Realm had fused their Martial Soul and their Divine Soul into one. Due to the additional support, a Divine Martial Soul could live for a very long time. If the cultivator's body was wounded, they could eventually recover as long as their Divine Martial Soul was still intact.

To think that the person inside the Divine Fire Realm was none other than the Scarlet Emperor!

"Does that mean you knew that I would come here from the very beginning?"

Long Chen had never thought that the Prismatic Key would quite literally be the key to obtaining the treasure. They had chosen to give Long Chen the Prismatic Key because they wanted him to take their inheritance.

The Black Emperor replied, "You are correct. The moment you stepped into the Divine Martial Empire, our fourth brother detected the presence of a Dragon Warrior. That was why he gave the key to you, so that you could find your way here one day. We've been alive for a very long time, and our Divine Martial Souls are on the brink of disappearing even though we don't move or speak. Thankfully, you've arrived at our final moments."

"I see. So everything was decided from the very beginning."

Long Chen was secretly happy because that meant that they had chosen to give him their inheritance because they had seen his potential.

To think that they knew about Dragon Warriors.

The Yellow Emperor responded, "We've waited here for years, but no one has met our expectations to inherit our legacy. Back then, members of the demon race were eyeing our treasure. Our fourth brother had no choice but to go to the Ten Thousand Nations Territory to find someone suitable to receive the Prismatic Key. Of course, being able to get here proves that you are indeed special.

"Our fourth brother hasn't returned even though it has been so long. It seems that his power has indeed been depleted. We will all leave in peace once we finish passing everything to you.

"Dragon Warriors... They are the most talented cultivators in the world. They inherited the blood of the dragons. Even the weakest dragons, the red or green dragons, were incredibly strong compared to humans. Even the weakest among them were somewhere in the Divine Martial Realm.

"You have the blood of a dragon, but we have no idea what kind of dragon it is. But at the very least, it must be a high-ranking species. You were born in the Ten Thousand Nations Territory, so you are one of our people. More importantly, your heart is pure and yet you do not hesitate to kill. This is the disposition of an emperor. Long Chen, you are the only candidate worthy of inheriting our legacy after tens of thousands of years of searching!"

The Golden Emperor was excited when he said all of that.

It seemed they knew a lot of things about Long Chen.

Does that mean they want to turn me into a leader of the Ten Thousand Nations Territory and protect it?

Long Chen was worried about that part.

He needed to go to the Three Royal Territories, so he couldn't just stay here and protect the Ten Thousand Nations Territory if he inherited their treasure.

Long Chen revealed a bitter smile. "Seniors... Does that mean that I have to stay here to protect the Ten Thousand Nations Territory if I accept your inheritance? I need to go to the Three Royal Territories..."

"Don't worry." The Golden Emperor smiled.

"Your potential far exceeds ours, which means you will be far stronger than us. Your potential would be wasted if you stayed here. You must go to the Three Royal Territories."

"Aren't you afraid that I won't return?"

"The blood flowing in your veins is the blood of the Ten Thousand Nations Territory. You can leave this place since it's very peaceful right now. But we hope that you will return and protect this place when it experiences a disaster that cannot be prevented."

Indeed. This place was Long Chen's home; all of his friends and families were here. So he had to protect it.

Long Chen was glad and touched by the gesture of the Five Emperors. Even though they had passed on, they had left behind their Divine Martial Souls to guard their home. They were also very lenient towards Long Chen.

Long Chen said, "I swear that I will become stronger and come back the moment our home is in danger. I will protect this place!"

"Good. Good!"

The four of them looked pleased as they stroked their beards. Their smiles revealed their satisfaction, and Long Chen was happy that they had accepted him.

"We've watched over you for quite some time. You are a good child, though sometimes you are bloodthirsty. But then again, always being kind is not the way a good emperor should act. Being able to kill someone without hesitation is the mark of a true ruler. You have what it takes to inherit our treasure.

"We don't have much time left. The demon race members are still waiting for everyone outside. We will leave everything here to you."

The Golden Emperor smiled and looked at the other Emperors for their approval.

“The demon race... Are they already outside?” Long Chen knew that they would appear, but he wasn’t worried because the Five Emperors weren’t worried.

The Five Emperors were passing him their treasure.

The elegant Azure Emperor said, “All five of us became famous and strong because of a certain man. He was the oldest of us, roughly a thousand years older. His legacy has most likely disappeared into nothing. He was our master, and also the greatest being in the history of the Ten Thousand Nations Territory. We call him the Emperor of Man.

“Master passed on long ago. All five of us were stuck at the First Divine Martial Stage, while Master was the only person who reached the Second Divine Martial Stage in the Ten Thousand Nations Territory. The stronger a cultivator is, the longer it takes to progress. All five of us were stuck at the First Divine Martial Stage until the very end of our lives. Master, on the other hand, was stuck at the Second Divine Martial Stage and never once stepped foot into the Third Divine Martial Stage even in his final moments. He died of old age.

“We were all raised on the shoulders of a giant. Master was a truly strong cultivator. He was the one who gave us martial techniques befitting of cultivators at the Divine Martial Realm when we reached it. Divine-tier martial techniques are treasures, and we only have one here in the Ten Thousand Nations Territory. The five of us used this technique in the past, and now we give it to you.”

The Golden Emperor waved his arm, and an ancient parchment appeared in front of Long Chen.

The parchment was old. It looked like it would disintegrate at the slightest touch.

“A Divine-tier martial technique?”

Long Chen was excited when he saw the parchment. Even though it looked normal, he was frightened by the aura hidden inside of it. It was as if the parchment stood at the pinnacle of life and looked down on others.

The Emperor of Man must’ve been exceedingly strong if this parchment is anything to go by. He stood at the peak of the Ten Thousand Nations Territory. He’s the real trailblazer ...

Long Chen was excited when he thought of that.

To think that the vast land of the Ten Thousand Nations Territory had only produced a single person who reached the Second Divine Martial Stage. It could’ve been said that he was practically unbeatable.

Only someone like him was befitting of owning such a technique.

“The name of this Divine-tier martial technique is the Emperor’s Manual! From today onwards, it belongs to you. You can use it or pass it down. Long Chen, catch!”

The Golden Emperor waved his arm, and the Emperor’s Manual flew towards Long Chen.

Long Chen grabbed it gingerly with his heart racing. This was the only Divine-tier martial technique in the Ten Thousand Nations Territory. The Emperor of Man and the Five Emperors had used it to kill numerous others, so there was no chance it was a simple technique.

The difference between a Divine-tier martial technique and an Emperor-tier martial technique was massive.

Even in the Three Royal Territories, very few people had Divine-tier martial techniques. Long Chen already had one despite only being at the Second Heavenly Martial Stage.

“Thank you, Seniors! I will work hard and cultivate it as soon as I can!”

The Yellow Emperor chuckled. “Don’t be rash. Divine-tier martial techniques use up a lot of essence, so you can’t use it yet. I suppose you can use a small part of it when you reach the Fifth Heavenly Martial Stage.”

The four of them were very kind and pleasant to talk to. They didn’t rush their words, as if they had lived through a lot of things. This made Long Chen feel like he was their grandchild.

Just then, the Golden Emperor interrupted, “Now that you’ve obtained the Emperor’s Manual, you’ve accepted the inheritance of our master. From today onwards, you are his disciple, and also our junior. We all shoulder the responsibility of protecting our home. Do you agree?”

Tip: You can use left, right keyboard keys to browse between chapters.

Chapter 874 - Emperor Vanquisher

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The Golden Emperor’s tone was strict when he talked about it.

Guarding the Ten Thousand Nations Territory was something Long Chen would've done anyway, so it did not interfere with him obtaining the Five Emperors' treasure. He kneeled on the ground and said seriously, "I greet my seniors!"

"Hoho."

The four of them chuckled at the same time. It was clear that they were satisfied with Long Chen's actions.

"Alright then, Junior. You can stand up now. You can put the Emperor's Manual away now, because we have other things to say."

Long Chen knew that the Emperor's Manual wasn't the only treasure.

"Yes." He stood up and put the parchment away while he looked at the remaining Emperors expectantly.

"The Five Emperors' Secret Realm has attracted two Sword Warriors from the Three Royal Territory, and they were at the Divine Martial Realm. You should know them more than us because you've obtained their Sword Souls, and it's also the very rare kind in which two Sword Souls are combined together. We have something that should be useful to you. It's also something that our master left behind."

The Golden Emperor then produced something else from thin air.

Long Chen saw a pair of regular-looking black gloves in the Golden Emperor's hands. They looked thin and were not different from the gloves he had seen in Baiyang Town. Women always wore them to wash their clothes to prevent their hands from getting hurt. Long Chen also sensed nothing coming from the black gloves.

But there was indeed something strange about them. There was a dark black rune that let out a dim light on the back of each glove.

"What is it?"

"This is a Divine Weapon."

The Emperors chuckled.

"A Divine Weapon? Is it... a glove?"

Long Chen was confused. He knew that there were indeed Divine Weapons in the shape of gloves or gauntlets, but most of them had blades on the joints. At the very least, they were designed to kill or increase the strength of the user. The gloves in front of him looked like an ordinary pair of gloves! How were they a Divine Weapon?

The Black Emperor, currently shrouded in a dark mist, answered Long Chen's question. "This is the only Divine-tier Divine Weapon in the Ten Thousand Nations Territory. Do you believe me?"

"I believe you." Long Chen smiled and accepted the gloves graciously. He was even more confused when he held them, because they merely felt like common gloves. The only difference was that they gave off a feeling of being untearable.

"Don't underestimate them. Those gloves are called the Emperor Vanquishers. It was the Divine Weapon our master used. None of us could unleash their full potential, but I'm certain that you, as a Sword Warrior, can communicate with them better than us. But I suppose you need to become stronger before you can use them.

"The good news is that you can benefit from using the gloves. Fist techniques don't receive any benefits from your Sword Root, but wearing the Emperor Vanquishers will allow your Sword Root to amplify your fist techniques. And keep in mind, fists and swords are the most popular weapons in the Three Royal Territory."

Long Chen finally learned that the Emperor Vanquishers were indeed strong and precious.

"So gauntlets and gloves are popular Divine Weapons in the Three Royal Territory? I didn't know that at all."

The two treasures given by the Five Emperors, the Emperor's Manual and the Emperor Vanquishers, were both incredible treasures that anyone would be happy to receive. Divine-tier treasures had only appeared a few times in the entire history of the Ten Thousand Nations Territory.

Long Chen never realized how precious the Five Emperors' treasure was. He had expected only a single Divine-tier treasure, but he never expected to obtain two. And both of them suited him!

Once he became stronger, he could cultivate the Emperor's Manual and then use Emperor Vanquishers to utilize the amplification effects of his Sword Root to increase the Emperor's Manual's strength. The destructive effect would be unimaginable!

Long Chen had no clue how to thank them. He wasn't good at coming up with words of gratitude, so he usually relied on taking action to repay the favor, such as helping Feng Yangzi fulfill his final wish.

"Long Chen, become stronger when you reach the Three Royal Territory. You should be able to use them if you become slightly stronger. Our treasures will help you fend off your enemies and survive there. Cultivate hard, because you are our hope."

“Also, you have to be careful in the Three Royal Territory. Divine-tier items are still highly sought-after over there. One wrong move and you will die. The Three Royal Territory... It’s a scary place that’s on an entirely different level compared to the Ten Thousand Nations Territory. We went there once, and everyone there called us lower lifeforms. None of them looked highly on us.”

“Make sure to make us proud when you get there.”

“But prioritize your safety.”

The four of them each gave a warning and a piece of advice to Long Chen. The time to depart soon approached.

Even though Long Chen had only known them for a short while, he was reluctant to part ways.

He memorized all of their words and would follow their advice.

Long Chen then asked tentatively, “Seniors... Are you sending me out now?”

“Don’t be in a rush. We have one last thing.”

The four of them looked at each other before they all stared at Long Chen in unison. This time, they were very serious. Long Chen hadn’t seen them this serious before.

“There’s more?” Long Chen was stunned. He thought the Emperor’s Manual and the Emperor Vanquishers were already the best treasures.

The four remaining Emperors made their final decision. The Golden Emperor’s hand flashed with a golden light, and a small, gray ball appeared.

“What is that?”

There was nothing but gray mist inside it. It contained a strange and eerie demonic power that Long Chen could not take his eyes off.

“This is something we’ve kept for a very long time, and also something the demon race wants. Keep it safe. You will naturally know what it is when you become stronger. We only know its name right now.”

“What is it called?” Long Chen carefully accepted the strange little ball. From the way they were acting, it was clear that the strange ball was their most prized possession. If not, the demon race wouldn’t have waited for so many years for the chance to obtain it.

The four of them answered in unison, “It’s called the True Martial Overlord Soul. This is something that we obtained by chance when all five of us were in the Three Royal

Territory. We didn't know how to use it, but it seems that it's related to the strongest person in the True Martial Territory, the True Martial Overlord that has led the True Martial Palace for tens of thousands of years!"

"True Martial Overlord? True Martial Overlord Soul?"

Long Chen memorized those words.

It was natural for him to not know what the True Martial Overlord Soul was, especially when even the Five Emperors didn't know about it.

"Keep it safe. Do not let anyone know about it when you are in the Three Royal Territory, or you will die. You can only reveal it once you have the strength to stand at the peak of the Three Royal Territory. Understand?"

Long Chen nodded and quickly put it inside his Primordial Realm. This was the third treasure, and also the most valuable one.

"Alright, we've given you everything. We will send you out now."

The Golden Emperor smiled kindly. He seemed very relieved after giving everything to Long Chen.

"Seniors... The six demons from the demon race will know that I have the treasure when I get out..." He was worried about the six demons guarding the exit. How could he get out? They would just kill him to seize the treasure!

"Who said you obtained the Five Emperors' treasure? It's with the poor guy who's still figuring out how to open the chest. There's a seal on the chest that our master learned from the Three Royal Territory. It's called the Nine Layered Seal. Even the demons will take some time to open it up."

Long Chen chuckled because of how devious the Five Emperors were.

With the Long-Bearded Guest as bait, they would seize him and take the treasure chest. Who else but Long Chen would know that he himself was the one who had taken the treasure?

"Time is running out. We will send you off now. Junior, this is the last and only time you will see us, but we will leave behind our power and meld them with the Five Emperor Seal in your palm and turn it into the Five Emperor Palm. It will travel with you on your journey for a very long time. It will also temporarily allow you to use our power and grant you the same effect of having ten times more essence. I suppose this is the final gift that your seniors can give you. The Emperor's Manual and the Emperor Vanquishers are gifts from our master."

The Golden Emperor was the one who said that.

Before Long Chen could react, they surrounded him. A burning, red energy flew into Long Chen's Scarlet Emperor Seal from the Golden Emperor's hands.

The Golden Emperor chuckled. "This is our fourth brother's power. He left it behind so that we could pass it to you today."

Long Chen knew that they were trying to give up the last of their powers so that they could disappear quietly. All of those powers would fuse with his Five Emperor Seals and turn them into the Five Emperor Palm, to give him one final strong technique.

"Our powers are limited. You can only use the Five Emperor Palm during the Heavenly Martial Realm to increase your essence by ten times, but I suppose you won't need us anymore when you reach the Divine Martial Realm. Hohoho..."

The four elders turned into balls of light matching their respective colors and fused into Long Chen's Five Emperor Seals.

All five seals in his palm lit up.

The presence of the four Emperors disappeared completely from this world.

Tip: You can use left, right keyboard keys to browse between chapters.

Chapter 875 - Demon Race's Appearance

Chapter 875 - Demon Race's Appearance

"Are they all dead?"

Long Chen was stunned when he saw the traces of the Five Emperors disappearing in front of him. Then the scene in front of him slowly disappeared until he was standing in the lonely, dark corridor again.

The Five Emperor Seals in his palm were glittering brilliantly like gems. Long Chen saw the image of the Five Emperors inside the seals.

Those images were the Five Emperors themselves. As they'd said, they would accompany Long Chen on his journey for a long time. The Five Emperors were gone from this world, but their powers remained inside the Five Emperor Seals. It was the only way for them to leave their mark on this world.

“So every time I use the Five Emperor Palm, I will be able to use their powers and increase my essence by ten times ...”

Long Chen was sad that the Five Emperors were gone. Even though he had only spoken with them for a short time, he was touched by their passion and mission. Those who were willing to sacrifice themselves for the sake of others were always the one that had to be treasured.

“Never mind. I will have to stop thinking about them now. They’ve given me a mission, and I must accomplish it to repay them.”

Long Chen checked his body as well as the Five Emperor Palm.

“I can fight someone one stage above me with my Dragon Soul Transformation. The Sword Root increases my power further by one stage. The Five Emperor Palm will raise it by another stage. That means that right now, I can defeat someone at the Fifth Heavenly Martial Realm. This is an incredible increase to my strength. I’m certain that I will feel much safer in the Three Royal Territory now.”

It was already difficult for regular people to fight someone one stage above them in the Heavenly Martial Realm. Long Chen was a monster that could fight someone three stages above him. No one else in history could achieve his feats.

Even the Sword Warriors at the apex could only increase their strength by fifteen times at most.

Long Chen had obtained a tremendous boon from this adventure.

He was the final winner this time. Not only had his strength increased greatly, he had even obtained all of the treasures. He had reached the Second Heavenly Martial Stage and obtained the Yin Yang Sword Root from Feng Yangzi. He then obtained the Emperor’s Manual, the Emperor Vanquishers, the Five Emperor Palm, and even the mysterious True Martial Overlord Soul from the Five Emperors.

These would become his greatest sources of strength in the Three Royal Territory.

“As long as I can pass the next obstacle, I will be able to find the method to reach the Three Royal Territory in peace.”

The next obstacle was naturally the six demons. Long Chen needed to feign ignorance and let the Long-Bearded Guest become the bait.

Just then, footsteps came down from the tunnel. It was Bai Lan and Ancestor Jin. They noticed that Long Chen hadn’t returned and decided to check what was going on. Bai Lan originally left Ancestor Jin alone, but the latter didn’t want to be alone. And because he had been crippled by Long Chen, Bai Lan could easily control him.

“Long Chen, why are you here?” Bai Lan was surprised.

Long Chen smiled bitterly. “The Long-Bearded Guest was too cunning. He now has the treasure and I can’t break through the barrier.”

“What?” Bai Lan was in disbelief. He was certain that Long Chen could chase after the Long-Bearded Guest. He never thought the latter would end up taking the treasure. He and Ancestor Jin couldn’t just let this go.

They weren’t far from the room, so Long Chen led them there. Looking through the barrier, they saw that the Long-Bearded Guest was indeed trying to open the chest.

He chuckled when he saw Long Chen and the others. “You three ... How about you come in here and help me unseal this? Hahaha ...”

“Long Beard! Don’t you dare get cocky. You have the treasure, but you can’t open it right now. Do you think you can escape us?” Bai Lan threatened him.

Bai Lan didn’t mind giving the treasure to Long Chen, but he refused to let the Long-Bearded Guest take it.

Ancestor Jin refused to let the Long-Bearded Guest take it too. Long Chen was young, but he was the strongest individual in the Ten Thousand Nations Territory, so Ancestor Jin had to treat him well right now.

Ancestor Jin huffed, “Long Beard, give us the chest or we will kill you.”

The Long-Bearded Guest looked up fearlessly since the barrier was still in place. “Why? Does the leader of the Five Elements Alliance want me to hand it over for nothing? Just you wait.”

“You!” Ancestor Jin was furious.

“Once I open it and inherit the strength of the Five Emperors, I will become the strongest in the Ten Thousand Nations Territory. Hehehe ... Just you wait.”

The ground shook right when the Long-Bearded Guest said that.

Since the Five Emperors had disappeared, their last remaining energy would be used to send everyone out. As expected, an azure light enveloped Long Chen. This was the energy of the Azure Emperor Key.

Long Chen had previously used it to enter the Secret Realm.

But now its goal had been achieved.

As long as Bai Lan and Ancestor Jin thought that the Long-Bearded Guest had obtained the treasure, then everything would work in his favor.

The light barrier flashed rapidly. Long Chen felt himself flying away from the secret realm rapidly and soon found himself back in the center of Confounding City.

There were only nine people left. The only one missing was Feng Qing, who Long Chen had killed. The others were still alive. The Five Emperors had been very lenient towards them.

“Long-Bearded Guest!”

Bai Lan and Ancestor Jin needed to catch the Long-Bearded Guest the moment they exited, but he placed the chest inside his storage ring the moment he exited and escaped. Since they were all at the same stage, none of them could actually catch up to him.

The Long-Bearded Guest was a very careful man, so he had planned out exactly where to go once he got his hands on the Five Emperors’ treasure.

“Catch the Long-Bearded Guest!” Ancestor Jin shouted.

Everyone chased after him. But at that moment, a terrifying pressure fell from the sky. Even Long Chen was barely able to handle it. He knew that the six demons were here, so he quickly pulled Bai Lan down. “Don’t move!”

Everyone looked up at the sky.

High up there were six people in black cloaks. They stood still in the air, while their robes whipped around in the wind.

They didn’t look special, but the auras they emitted were similar to the aura they had felt from the Purple-Blooded Jiao. All six of them flew down at the same time. Their pressure was strong enough to stop someone at the peak of the Heavenly Martial Realm, much less the Long-Bearded Guest.

Everyone was shocked and surprised by the sudden appearance of the six people. Even Long Chen dared not leave.

He had expected them, but he feigned surprise. He couldn’t let them know that he knew they would show up.

So they finally appeared.

No one else knew what was happening.

“Who are they?” Lei Ji was shocked as he quickly regrouped with Long Chen and the others. The Five Elements Alliance quickly stood side by side. Only Wu Lian and the Long-Bearded Guest stood alone.

Long Chen took a glance at Wu Lian. Her head was lowered and her veil was back on. She had tidied herself up to make it seem like nothing had happened to her. But only Long Chen felt the deep grudge hidden deep inside her eyes.

She was looking at no one right now, as if nothing mattered to her.

Long Chen didn’t care about what was going through her mind right now. They were enemies to begin with, and being forced to do all those things inside the Secret Realm was nothing compared to her grudge against Long Chen for killing her son.

But unfortunately, Long Chen was much stronger than her now, so she could no longer take revenge.

Wu Guangyu’s death had been his own folly.

Long Chen found that almost everyone in the Ancient Graveyard was here. They stood side by side, with the people from the Nine Great Clans standing at the forefront. Long Chen was with the Demon and Thunder clans, and he was relieved to find that Suxue and the others were still alive. However, the pressure coming from the six demons frightened them a lot.

Wait, where are Xiaolang and Yan’er? Long Chen had a bad feeling.

Only a fraction of the people who had entered the Ancient Graveyard were still alive, as killing each other was a requirement for exiting. Ten thousand had entered, but now there were only three thousand, and this wasn’t even the final result. Long Chen was certain that everyone would kill each other in order to turn their Ancient Tokens golden.

Only then would they be able to leave this place.

Long Chen clearly knew that everything was within the grasp of the six demons, so even he had to bow down for now.

“Friends from the human race, I know that you don’t recognize us. Let us introduce ourselves. We are the demons from the Desolate Royal Territory. It’s also the strongest territory in the Three Royal Territory! I’m certain that you know what demons are. We are the very same demon race that fought against the Five Emperors in the past! Of course, we are the few that have some spare time on our hands.”

Tip: You can use left, right keyboard keys to browse between chapters.

Chapter 876 - Nine Layered Seal

Chapter 876 - Nine Layered Seal

As they spoke, one of their robes floated in the air to reveal their purple scales.

The demon who spoke had a familiar voice that everyone recognized. But where had he come from?

"I am Zi Xue. You should know me by now." He laughed, and a massive illusion appeared behind him. It was a massive Purple Jiao, but the head was incomparably large!

Almost everyone here knew about the Purple-blooded Jiao. It was the same one who had told them that he was the Black Emperor's mount!

Everyone realized that they had been tricked!

"You bunch of idiots actually thought that I was a mount for the Black Emperor? The Five Emperors are our enemies, how could I serve him? Idiots."

While he was speaking, a cold aura enveloped the area. Everyone was so surprised and afraid that they dared not utter a word. The Long-Bearded Guest, who had obtained the Five Emperors' treasure, dared not move at all. He was already sweating bullets and regretting taking the treasure.

It was clear that the demons were here for it!

"Zi Xue, you talk too much. Let me handle it!"

Tian Kun, the man from the wolf tribe, stepped forward and asked, "Who has the treasure?"

Everyone, including Long Chen, looked at the Long-Bearded Guest. It was clear that he was the one who had taken it, and he dared not deny it. He quickly said, "Dear experts from the demon race, I will willingly give you the treasure ... Ack!"

Everyone was shocked when they heard him shout in pain. They all took a step back when they saw that Tian Kun had punched through the Long-Bearded Guest's chest with his claws and destroyed his heart in an instant.

He then took the storage ring on the Long-Bearded Guest's finger and tossed the corpse aside. Even in death, the Long-Bearded Guest's eyes were still wide with shock.

Everyone was intimidated by the cruelty of the demon race. They all stepped back because they knew that the demon race was making an example out of the Long-Bearded Guest. If they didn't comply, they would die too. The demon race weren't very kind to begin with.

Tian Kun took out the treasure chest, and the five other demons surrounded him.

"Yes, this is it! I can't believe that those five ghosts hid it so well and even restricted us from obtaining it. We never would've been able to get it without their help."

"We finally got it after all these years."

"Let me see if that thing is inside."

They were looking at the chest with anticipation and ignored the three thousand people below them.

They tried opening the chest, but they were barred by the seal.

"It's a Nine Layer Seal! Those damned bastards!"

All six demons became angry.

"Shit. To think they used the Nine Layer Seal! Can we open it?"

"I can't. Can anyone else? If not, we might need to find someone to help us open it. We cannot spread word about us obtaining the treasure right now. Once someone opens up the seal, we can just kill that person."

"I suppose that's the only thing we can do."

The six demons decided to leave after they discussed amongst themselves.

Thankfully, they did nothing else.

Long Chen looked at them. Everything had been out of his control so far. Even though he had become stronger, he couldn't defeat the six demons.

"Long Chen, are you going to let them take it?" Bai Lan whispered.

"We can't fight them, so I have no choice."

Just then, two of the demons floated down from the sky. One was Tian Kun, the man from the wolf tribe, and the other was skinny like a snake. He was none other than Xuan Feng from the Northern Snake Tribe.

“Where are Long Chen and Bai Lan?” both of them said at the same time.

Both Long Chen and Bai Lan were taken by surprise. How did they know them?

Long Chen and Bai Lan had no choice but to step forward. They remained calm as they approached the demons.

“Are you Bai Lan and Long Chen?” Tian Kun observed them while Xuan Feng waved his arm. Two figures flew over from the horizon. Long Chen was shocked to find that they were Xiaolang and Suyan!

Mo Xiaolang appeared to be fine, but Suyan was crying out of fear. She looked so pitiful. Both Long Chen and Bai Lan felt their hearts twitch. Mo Xiaolang was one of Long Chen’s closest friends, so he would fight to the death if something happened to him.

Xiaolang was as important to him as Ling Xi, while Suyan was like a sister to him.

Thankfully, the demons had not harmed either of them.

“Yan’er!” Bai Lan’s eyes were red. If Long Chen weren’t holding him back, he would’ve attacked the demons. It was indeed bad news for Suyan to fall into their hands.

The demon called Xuan Feng looked at Bai Lan. “Don’t worry, I am giving your daughter the opportunity of a lifetime! To think that her body has the rare Immortal body constitution. It would be a waste to leave something so precious in the Ten Thousand Nations Territory, so I will take her back to my tribe. There, she will become our Saintess. As her father, you should be proud that she will become the Saintess of the Northern Snake Tribe. Even I will have to bow down to her in the future.”

Bai Lan and Long Chen were utterly surprised.

“Little Cat, what’s the Immortal body constitution?”

Little Cat explained seriously, “It’s a type of body constitution that grants the wielder a physical body that will never rot away. She shouldn’t have it, but I think maybe your dragon blood changed her body completely from the inside out since she consumed a lot of it. I think her body constitution quite literally upgraded to the Immortal body constitution. Don’t be confused. You have the Inherited Blood Essence of the Ancient Bloodsoul Dragon, so this is natural.”

Long Chen understood what was happening now.

He knew he had done the right thing in saving Yan’er. If not, she would’ve been dead a long time ago.

Sometimes, life would find a twisted way to continue on.

Bai Lan was indignant, but Xuan Feng said, "Bai Lan, you are not an idiot. I am giving your daughter a grand future and a chance to become stronger. You should be proud of her."

Bai Lan knew that it was indeed good for Suyan, but how could he let his daughter live with the demon race? Suyan was still young and timid! He couldn't let her live so far away all by herself.

He felt his heart aching.

"Bai Lan ..." Long Chen patted his shoulder. "There's nothing we can do. Let's just hope that this is good news for Yan'er."

Long Chen knew that Bai Lan valued his daughters more than his own life, but there was nothing he could do against absolute power.

"Father ..." Suyan started crying in the air.

Mo Xiaolang stood beside her and consoled her. He was also communicating with Long Chen using his gaze.

Xuan Feng said, "I will give you fifteen minutes to say goodbye. Afterwards, we will send all of you back to the Ten Thousand Nations Territory, but there's one more person that has to stay behind."

He then gestured at Tian Kun.

Tian Kun looked at Long Chen and asked, "I've heard from your brother. You wish to go to the Three Royal Territory?"

"Xiaolang?" Long Chen assumed that Xiaolang had told them that.

Tian Kun had no ill intentions for Long Chen so he smiled and said, "I've heard about you from Xiaolang. You've indeed helped him grow a lot during his journey. I suppose you've done a good deed for us, the Wolf Tribe. Even though I'm not certain if he's a Sun Devouring Wolf, I do know that someone as talented as him will reach a very high rank in our tribe. He will be given a lot of resources to cultivate, and will become the strongest person in our tribe."

Long Chen had learned a lot from Tian Kun's words, and he smiled helplessly. Xiaolang was helpless too.

It was clear that the six demons knew about Xiaolang's talent, and since he was a wolf-type demonic beast, it was natural for him to go to the Wolf Tribe. But to Long Chen and Xiaolang, this was going to be another separation for them.

Tip: You can use left, right keyboard keys to browse between chapters.

Chapter 877 - Journey

Chapter 877 - Journey

Long Chen had just rescued Xiaolang from Wu Guangyu's hands, and now they had to be separated again.

"Long Chen, where do you want to go in the Three Royal Territory? We from the Desolate Royal Territory do not welcome humans."

Because of Mo Xiaolang, they were quite friendly towards Long Chen.

"I need to go to the Swordsoul Territory."

Long Chen was certain that they would take him there because of his relationship with Xiaolang. That way, he wouldn't have to explore the entirety of Three Royal Territory to find his way.

It was just that he was unwilling to separate from Xiaolang so soon.

It's all because I'm still too weak! They wouldn't do that if I was stronger!

"Swordsoul Territory? Sorry, but we are returning to the Desolate Royal Territory. We won't be passing there, and it's too far away. We will only be passing by the True Martial Territory. We will take you there, then you can find your own way to the Swordsoul Territory."

"You two can take the time to talk now. We will bring you to the Three Royal Territory once we send everyone else away." Xuan Feng pointed, and both Xiaolang and Suyan floated downwards. They quickly approached Bai Lan and Long Chen. On the other side, Suxue was crying as she ran over to them.

All of them were helpless in this situation.

"Father, Sister! I don't want to go!" Suyan was crying as she held onto her father and sister. Suxue's heart ached when she heard her younger sister's cries, but there was

nothing she could do. Even Bai Lan was helpless, and he was crying too. He regretted bringing Suyan here, but he had thought that it would be unsafe to leave Suyan back in the Ten Thousand Nations Territory.

"It's all my fault ..." Bai Lan blamed himself.

"Father, it's not your fault."

Suyan wiped her tears away before looking at Long Chen. "I won't let anyone down. Father, Sister, I will work hard and come back once I've become stronger. No one will be able to take me away then."

Difficulties in life were often the fastest way to grow and mature.

Long Chen was glad to see that Suyan was determined to become stronger.

Bai Lan smiled a bit too.

"Big Brother." Standing beside Long Chen, Mo Xiaolang forced a bitter smile and said, "I didn't expect something like this to happen. They are just too strong, at the Category Nine Emperor-tier. I cannot win against them. I suppose I will have to go to the Desolate Royal Territory now."

"Find a way to escape once you are there."

Long Chen didn't want to fight against someone so strong. If possible, he would prefer to escape once they reached the Three Royal Territory. But he would admit defeat if he failed.

"Alright." Xiaolang nodded. "Sorry, Big Brother. I wanted to travel with you to find Ling Xi, but I doubt that can happen right now. Once I'm strong enough, I will go find you in the Swordsoul Territory or the True Martial Territory."

Long Chen patted Xiaolang's shoulder. "Don't worry. It's already lucky that we found a way to enter the Three Royal Territory."

Mo Xiaolang nodded.

Indeed. They might not have found the entrance to the Three Royal Territory on their own.

It was time to depart. Suxue and Suyan were hugging each other when Bai Lan approached Long Chen. He looked at them and said, "Long Chen, and your brother, I know that Suyan will be going somewhere different from you two, but I still want to say that she will be in your care. Please look after her if you can."

Long Chen nodded because he had expected that. “Bai Lan, don’t worry. I will do everything in my power to fight for Suyan. You know how strong I am. Once I’m there, I will still do my best even though I won’t be the strongest anymore.”

Mo Xiaolang interrupted, “If I’m closer to her, I will look after her. She’s my big brother’s friend, so she’s also my friend.”

Bai Lan was slightly relieved when they swore to protect Yan’er. Even though they wouldn’t be together, Bai Lan believed that Long Chen would not disappoint him.

“It’s time to go. Bai Lan, take care!” said Long Chen.

Bai Lan had truly earned Long Chen’s respect, and he also saw him as a father figure.

“Take care. Prioritize your life above all else! Don’t fight too hard!”

Long Chen remembered something just before he left—the Divine Martial Empire. “Bai Lan, I need your help.”

“What is it?”

“It’s about the Divine Martial Empire. Even though it’s weakening, there’s still a leader there, and she’s also my friend. I hope that you can take care of them when you return. Also, I will give the Martial God Tombstone to you. Pass it on to the Long Yue from the Divine Martial Empire for me. Please?”

Bai Lan nodded. “I will take care of them. Don’t worry. With me here and the Martial God Tombstone, the Divine Martial Empire would soon revive again.”

“I’m glad.”

Bai Lan had obtained a lot of treasures from the Five Emperors’ Secret Realm. It was certain that the Demon Clan would grow stronger again.

“Long Chen.” Suxue was still holding Suyan when she called for him hesitantly.

The two of them looked at each other with embarrassment.

“Please be safe, and I hope you succeed. Please take care of my sister too.”

Suxue naturally wished that Long Chen would meet up with Ling Xi again.

“I will.”

Suxue cried, but she quickly wiped off her tears. “Remember what I said. I will wait for you forever in the Demon clan of the Ten Thousand Nations Territory.”

She had once told him that he could return if he failed or if things didn't go his way.

"I will never get married, because I need to inherit my father's position."

Suxue's intention was very clear.

But Long Chen knew that he could never cross the line with her. She was a good girl, and Long Chen couldn't disappoint the people around her. He nodded and said two final words to her. "Take care."

"Take care."

They had nothing else to say.

Time passed quickly. The six demons had been surprisingly patient and sent everyone back. From today onwards, the Ancient Graveyard would not be activated anymore.

Bai Lan and Suxue never stopped bidding goodbye to Long Chen, but ultimately, they were sent back too.

Long Chen wasn't sure if this was the last time he would meet them or not.

They were the ones who had shaped Long Chen into what he was today.

"Big Brother, I'm scared." Suyan started crying when Bai Lan was gone. She held onto Long Chen's arm firmly.

"Yan'er, don't be afraid." Long Chen forced a smile while he consoled her.

"Yeah. Yan'er, I'm here too." Mo Xiaolang sounded like he was very close to her for some reason.

"Thank you, Brother Xiaolang." Suyan nodded obediently.

The six demons were staring at them from above.

"I have a strange feeling about that young man. Something is making me very wary of him, as if I've encountered a natural enemy," Xuan Feng hissed.

"Idiot. Do you think he's some kind of weasel?" Hong Ying chuckled.

"We've gained a lot today. Not only did we obtain the Five Emperors' Treasure, we've found a Saintess with the Immortal body constitution, and also a demonic wolf that resembles the Sun Devouring Wolf."

"Yes, we've truly profited greatly. I won't be coming back here ever again."

“Let’s go. The treasure chest and the seal take precedence. We will be rich once we break it open!”

“Remember to take the three of them too. The more I look at them, the more I think that they are cute.”

“Hong Ying, you pervert. You are a tree demonic beast; stop trying to court someone from the wolf tribe,” Tian Kun said with a chuckle.

It appeared that they were in a good mood.

Under their control, Long Chen and the others flew quickly through the Ancient Graveyard. They were the only ones left here now.

They soon arrived at Heavenly Water City and dove into an abnormally deep lake in a dark corner. They kept diving downwards until everything was dark.

“There’s a passage that leads to the True Martial Territory at the bottom of this lake. We can use it to reach the Three Royal Territory. Children, that place is very large. You might’ve been complacent in your little well, so don’t let your jaws drop when you arrive.” Hong Ying chuckled.

They dove past the layers of mud until they broke through a barrier of light. They then found themselves in an underground chamber with an old, wooden door in the wall.

Hong Ying opened the old door, and Long Chen saw nothing but a very long and dark narrow corridor behind it. It was similar to the corridor in the Five Emperors’ Secret Realm, but this one had no end and was even longer.

He took a deep breath and took his first step.

“Three Royal Territory, here I come.”

There was no chance of returning once he stepped into that place.

What kind of world awaited him there?

Tip: You can use left, right keyboard keys to browse between chapters.

Chapter 878 - Underworld Estate

Chapter 878 - Underworld Estate

Long Chen walked through the long, narrow corridor. Everything was completely dark in front of him and he couldn't see the exit. It made him feel like he was talking through a time tunnel.

The six demons walked at the front while Long Chen and the other two were at the back. Suyan was holding onto Long Chen's arm tightly and hiding behind him. She was afraid and lost, and she only felt safe when she was beside Long Chen.

"Big Brother, I'm afraid..."

"Don't worry, Yan'er. We will soon leave this place and find a solution," Long Chen whispered to her. Then he looked at Mo Xiaolang.

He refused to let the two of them get taken away like that. He was preparing to make an escape the moment they arrived in the Three Royal Territory. He would immediately put the two of them in the Primordial Realm and escape using Blood Warp.

It was very risky, and he didn't know if it would work.

"We might not reach the end if we walk at this pace. Let's have three of us take the three younglings and run as fast as we can. We can exchange people if we get tired," Hong Ying suddenly suggested after a while.

Everyone agreed. Three of the demons came to the back. Each of them grabbed onto either Long Chen, Mo Xiaolang, or Suyan's arms and ran forward at full speed. Wind blew past them violently as they ran through the dark corridor.

The demons' speed far exceeded Long Chen's expectations. He could not keep up!

Long Chen realized that he had become blind at this speed.

Everything was dark around him, and he could only hear the wind blowing past them.

It was a gruesome experience.

Long Chen decided to cultivate while he was being carried, and he did so for a long time. He estimated that half a month had passed before he sensed that he was close to the exit.

The six demons that were escorting them were panting.

"We are almost there. We don't have to carry them anymore. Let's just walk there and recover our strength along the way. It would be bad if we were spotted by the humans from the Underworld Estate here, especially by the soldiers. They are ridiculously hard to shake off."

Tian Kun was the one who had suggested that.

“The soldiers? You mean the Underworld Soldiers? I will kill any of them that dares to stop us.” Xuan Feng chuckled.

“Those are just the regular soldiers. None of us could win against the generals, especially the ones at the Divine Martial Realm,” Tian Kun said cautiously.

Tian Kun was the calmest of the six demons.

Long Chen noted down several key pieces of information. He decided to find the Underworld Estate and the Underworld Soldiers the moment he exited this place. He also learned that the Underworld Soldiers were extremely strong.

“Big Brother.” Suyan had just separated from Hong Ying and quickly approached Long Chen’s side. The girl looked at the demons in awe because she was shocked by their speed.

“Don’t worry I’m here.” Long Chen patted her head and calmed her down.

“Big Brother, we are almost outside now.”

“I know.”

Long Chen had to take the gamble once they were outside.

Even though Mo Xiaolang and Suyan would have better futures at the Desolate Royal Territory, Long Chen didn’t want to be separated from them. Who would want demons to govern their lives? Still, Mo Xiaolang would benefit greatly from going to the Desolate Royal Territory. He would be given a lot of resources and would grow much stronger than Long Chen.

Still, Long Chen decided to bring Mo Xiaolang and Suyan with him. If he failed, he would admit defeat. He only hoped that Xiaolang would become incredibly strong next time they met.

Long Chen suddenly saw a small light at the end of the tunnel.

“We are finally here.” Hong Ying raised her arms to stretch, revealing her curves. The other demons looked at her with lust because she was the only woman demon here.

It was time to test his newfound strength. Long Chen’s heart was calm as he held onto Mo Xiaolang and Suyan with his hands. He was waiting for the moment he stepped into the Three Royal Territory to use Blood Warp.

The light slowly grew brighter in the distance.

“Damn the Underworld Estate. This place is like the underworld itself with the green skies. It’s worse than the Desolate Royal Territory.” Hong Ying complained at the front.

The closer they got to the light, the more Long Chen could see. The place in front of him was where he dreamed of reaching. It was where he would fulfill his promise.

Long Chen ignored everything Hong Ying said from the front.

“We are finally out!” Even though they were demons, they were still uncomfortable with being in a tunnel for so long. All of them felt refreshed after exiting.

Long Chen was the last one out.

“Now!” The moment he stepped out, he hid Xiaolang and Suyan in the Primordial Realm.

He then chose a direction and used Blood Warp immediately. He vanished into one of the directions in front of the demons. Blood Warp was indeed extremely fast and useful for him to escape.

It was Long Chen’s final hope.

“So he really was planning to run.” The six demons chuckled and ran after Long Chen with their own techniques. As Category Nine Divine-tier demonic beasts, they were only slightly slower than him!

Unfortunately, Blood Warp only lasted ten Li.

Long Chen didn’t know that they had been eyeing him. If they weren’t, they would’ve been confused by the sudden disappearance of Long Chen and might not have caught up to him.

Unfortunately...

The six demons were extremely fast, especially Tian Kun. He moved like lightning and caught up to Long Chen. The ten Li limit was up, and Tian Kun blocked Long Chen’s escape path.

“Trying to run? That won’t be easy.” Tian Kun laid down a purple lightning web that trapped Long Chen.

Blood Warp had been intercepted, and it had only taken them an instant.

Long Chen’s plan had failed.

He knew that if his plan failed, it would be up to fate to decide if he lived afterwards. He was still too weak to be the master of his own life right now.

To prevent them from discovering the Primordial Realm, he took Mo Xiaolang and Suyan out of it. They were already standing beside him when the lightning web trapped them.

The other demons caught up to them in the next instant.

"What a fool you are for trying to run away from a Lightning Soul Hounding Wolf." Hong Ying tore off the lightning web and chuckled at Long Chen.

"Xiaolang, Suyan, I'm sorry. I can't change our fates. We will meet again one day." Long Chen sighed.

He was very angry.

"Don't make it seem like we are going to kill them. We are just bringing them to a place more suited for them to develop," Tian Kun said in a cold voice as if he had seen through Long Chen's heart.

"He's right. Xiaolang, Yan'er, there's no future for you if you follow me to the True Martial Territory. I have my own things to do, and it's much more riskier than you think. Go with them for now. At the very least, you will be safe. I will come find you once I've become stronger."

Long Chen patted both of their shoulders.

Mo Xiaolang sighed. "Big Brother, I know how you are feeling. I swear that you will always be my sworn brother. We will go on our own adventure one day, where we shall live and die together. I will work hard so I won't fall behind you in terms of cultivation!"

"Good." Long Chen patted Xiaolang's chest.

"Big Brother ..." Suyan whimpered.

"Yan'er, grow up and become stronger. I will come visit you one day." Long Chen really didn't want to leave Suyan alone, but there was nothing he could do.

"Xiaolang, I leave Yan'er to you."

The three of them looked at each other.

Under the watchful gazes of the six demons, Long Chen glared back and said, "I know you want to kill me and be done with it, but you can't because of them. You don't want to sour your relationship with them just because of me. But I will warn you to not

underestimate me. If I find out that something happened to my brother or sister, I will destroy your tribes! Goodbye!”

Long Chen decided to leave immediately because there was no reason for him to stay. He turned and left without another word.

Staring at his back, Suyan cried in Mo Xiaolang’s chest. Even Mo Xiaolang had tears streaming down his cheeks. This time, it was different than when Wu Guangyu separated them, because he didn’t know if he would meet Long Chen again.

But for some reason, Xiaolang believed that he would meet with his brother again. He was certain that Long Chen would be even stronger and shine even more brilliantly on the day they reunited.

Tip: You can use left, right keyboard keys to browse between chapters.

Chapter 879 - Alpha

Chapter 879 - Alpha

The six demons looked at each other.

“Did we mishear that? He said he wants to destroy our tribes?” Hong Ying chuckled. Her laughter echoed in the empty space.

“He’s the first person who has said that and walked away alive.” Zi Xue laughed too.

“Why don’t I kill him so he won’t destroy our tribes right now?” Xuan Feng chuckled coldly.

“Enough. That person is weird. I think he will be able to do something here. Let’s just head back and watch over him. This isn’t our territory, so we need to head back soon.”

“Alright.”

Su Yan stared at the six demons and Long Chen’s back before she said in a daze, “Brother Xiaolang, will Big Brother really come and take us back?”

Mo Xiaolang nodded.

“Why? I thought the demons were strong?”

“That’s because Long Chen has never gone back on his word. He will crawl to the Desolate Royal Territory if he has to.”

Mo Xiaolang laughed.

Maybe Long Chen would grow a lot by being alone this time.

Long Chen took a deep breath.

While he looked calm, his heart was in pain. This was like the pain he felt when Ling Xi was taken away from him.

“Ling Xi was taken away, and now Xiaolang! I am too weak!”

Long Chen clenched his fists tightly, and power concentrated in them.

“I must work ten times harder to become stronger and kill whoever gets in my way! How can others be wary of me if I don’t turn into a demon?”

Long Chen shouted and punched a tree in front of him. The tree was large and roughly half a meter in diameter. The bark was completely black and its leaves were inky green. It looked solemn and eerie.

He punched it as hard as he could, but the tree did not fall! It just shook violently while leaves floated down.

“What’s going on?”

Long Chen had put a lot of strength in his punch out of frustration, guilt, and blame.

He wanted to cast his frustrations away with that punch before he focused on his cultivation.

His punch, which should have destroyed trees several times larger than this one, was completely useless against this tree! He had only left a mark in the bark.

“Why are regular trees so hard here?”

Long Chen was stumped before he remembered that he was in the Three Royal Territories. This was the True Martial Territory!

He temporarily placed his worries in the back of his mind.

Long Chen looked up and around him. He saw that he was in a dark forest, and everything looked eerie to him. Inky black trees surrounded him and the roots tangled in the ground. A dense layer of leaves covered the ground. Several shrubs were lying around, revealing the equally black soil underneath them.

Even the sky was dark and inky green. The clouds, which were the same color, were very low in the sky, as if they could fall at any time.

“Is this the True Martial Territory and also where the Underworld Estate is? How big is this place?”

Long Chen was lost.

He snapped out of his grief for losing Xiaolang and focused on his goals.

He needed to find Ling Xi.

He punched again and found that the tree was still fine. He had to use all of his strength to break a tree around half a meter in diameter.

This was ridiculous!

Not only was the tree hard, the soil was equally hard too! Long Chen could easily tunnel underground in the Metal District, but he couldn't do anything here! The ground was too tough.

“Is this how the Three Royal Territories are? To think that even common objects far exceed what we can find in the Ten Thousand Nations Territory. Even the strongest person in the Ten Thousand Nations Territory can barely break a tree. No wonder the people and demons of this place look down on us.”

Long Chen felt so powerless in this environment where everything was tough beyond his wildest dreams.

“Brat, don't be sad. He might be gone, but I'm still here with you!”

Little Cat came out of the Primordial Realm and took a deep breath. “Aaah. The air of the Three Royal Territories is dense with nature's spiritual energy. The spiritual energy here is called overlord spiritual energy. It's a thousand times denser than the energy in the Ancient Graveyard. The Three Royal Territories are indeed a higher world. The energy is very dense even in the fringes of it.”

“Overlord spiritual energy?” Long Chen sensed that there was indeed a thick air of spiritual energy around him. He only took a single breath and felt much better. He could recover all of the essence that he had used for Blood Warp in just a single day.

It would've taken him tens of days and even several other items like spiritual herbs or Royal Crystals to recover back in the Ten Thousand Nations Territory.

"It's exactly because of it that everything in the Three Royal Territories is this hardy. The rivers, sand, and leaves are all much harder here. You will feel like you've returned back to Baiyang Town. So... are you giving up?"

"No." Long Chen looked at the challenging world around him and said, "This is where I belong. The Ten Thousand Nations Territory was just a place for me to solidify my basics. This is where I get to grow stronger."

Little Cat paused in awe when he saw Long Chen's confidence. He smiled after some time. "Not bad for someone with the Ancestral Dragon's Inherited Blood Essence."

"Stop trying to butter me up."

Little Cat hopped onto Long Chen's shoulder and said lazily, "Bullshit. I'm not trying to butter you up, but there is one thing that I must tell you."

"What is it?"

"Because the overlord spiritual energy is very dense here, especially up in the sky, it suppresses everyone. Those below the Divine Martial Realm cannot fly here. With your strength, I think you can only hover around ten meters above the ground. You can jump, but I doubt that you can fly."

"Is that so ..." The Three Royal Territories were indeed a challenging world where even flying had been restricted. This was truly a place for the strong.

To Long Chen, there was no difference between fighting on the ground or in the air. He didn't really care about it.

"What the? Why aren't you feeling dejected?"

He thought Long Chen would be down.

"Don't underestimate me." Long Chen prepared himself and walked around in the dark forest. There was not a single sound to be heard, not even the chirps of the insects and bees.

"Wait, where are you going?" Little Cat followed Long Chen as he stumbled in the Dream Demon's body.

Long Chen thought for a moment. "I don't know where I am. I need to ask someone the way to reach the Swordsoul Palace."

Since he didn't know where he was, Long Chen just chose a random direction.

He continued to make his way forward, watching his surroundings. As Little Cat had told him, everything here was harder than he had thought. Even the soil was harder than the metallic soil of the Metal District. Long Chen thought that merely tripping and falling would result in an injury.

He started to become more and more excited as he walked.

"I have to live in a challenging world like this and become an alpha!"

No matter how dangerous it was, no matter how much he had to struggle, Long Chen would forever trudge forward. He had to reach the peak!

"I need to find Ling Xi first to let her know I'm fulfilling my promise."

He became excited when he thought that he was close to Ling Xi!

He walked for three days and nights as he studied the items he was given by the Five Emperors. The Five Emperor Palm was easy to use to begin with, so he decided to focus on the other things, the Emperor's Manual and the Emperor Vanquishers.

The Emperor Vanquishers were stronger than the Three Thousand Star Clusters. He tried using the Yin and Yang Sword Root to form a link with them, but he saw nothing but a black world inside of them. Long Chen's Yin and Yang Sword Root almost disappeared for good inside the empty space.

He needed time to slowly cultivate them.

"It took me several months to reach the Ninth Earthly Martial Stage from the Eighth Stage. Someone at the Heavenly Martial Realm can live for a very long time. Will it take me several months or even a year to reach the Third Heavenly Martial Stage?"

It took a lot of effort to enter the next stage. Long Chen had only improved as quickly as he had because of the Martial God Tombstone guiding him through the Earthly Martial Realm. Now he was alone here in the True Martial Territory, so progressing through the Heavenly Martial Realm was destined to be slow.

Reaching the next stage within just a year was not something a regular genius could do.

But Long Chen still complained that it was too slow.

Tip: You can use left, right keyboard keys to browse between chapters.

Chapter 880 - Barbaric Bear Tribe

Chapter 880 - Barbaric Bear Tribe

The Heavenly Martial Fist Manual is very difficult, so I will need to spend a lot of time on it. Cultivation is very hard right now. I had Blood Transmutation and the Martial God Tombstone in the past, but now I can't use them. I can only play it nice and push forward slowly.

Long Chen was still one of the fastest cultivators in the world, but it would still be difficult for him to reach the next stage.

Also, while other people could take hundreds of years to cultivate, Long Chen had no time to do so because Ling Xi was waiting for him.

I cannot be too rash now. I'm still faster than the others, so I can take it easy a bit.

Long Chen adjusted himself and continued walking. He had a feeling that he would reach some kind of settlement soon.

He could then ask them about everything in this world.

It took him two hours before he spotted people using Sight. They were approaching him, so Long Chen stopped and waited for them.

"They are here."

He was surrounded immediately. That was when Long Chen noticed something different about them. The youths were staring at him with excited eyes, as if they were wolves.

"Hm?" While they were looking at Long Chen, Long Chen was also studying them.

They were tall and muscular with tan skin. They looked young, but their bodies were abnormally buff, like those of beasts. It was clear that they were very powerful too. Based on their gazes, Long Chen determined that they had probably killed their fair share of people.

These were the people from the Three Royal Territory.

One of the better-looking men was the leader of the group. The others from his group asked him, "Xiong Jun, should we kill him?"

The others looked happy as they stared at Long Chen with greedy eyes.

They had just met, so Long Chen was certain if they were bandits. Still, they were planning on killing him! It was clear that the Royal Territories was a violent place.

The Three Royal Territories was home to a lot of experts that fought each other violently. It was only when others died that the remainder could live better.

Xiong Jun approached and said to Long Chen, "You're only at the Heavenly Martial Realm and yet you dare to walk alone here. You can die now. Everyone, cut him up and take his treasures and Emperor Crystals."

The youths pounced as soon as he said that. Strange, gray runes appeared on their skin and muscles, a clear indication of a type of Body Tempering technique.

They are only youngsters, but they are all at the Heavenly Martial Realm already. Their leader is at the Fourth Heavenly Martial Stage!

Long Chen was shocked!

He never thought the Royal Territories would be this crazy. To think that the regular youths were already at the Heavenly Martial Realm here! They could destroy everyone in the Ten Thousand Nations Territory!

This was scary.

"Thanks to the dense overlord spiritual energy, their bodies are pretty much completed the moment they are born. They form the eighteen Martial Veins and nine Martial Meridians as babies. Most people reach the Heavenly Martial Realm at this age. Since the people in the Three Royal Territory live for two hundred years on average, the youths in front of us are most likely in their forties. Still, in terms of their culture, they are barely adults," Little Cat explained casually.

"Forty years old and still underage? Ridiculous."

They had Long Chen surrounded, and they charged towards him.

Long Chen looked the same as them, but he was only half their age. He wasn't calling them old, but it was true that the youths were still underage in the eyes of those in the Three Royal Territories.

There was a reason why they called those from the Ten Thousand Nations Territory lower beings.

"Stop!" a woman suddenly shouted.

The youths stopped and turned to see who it was. In the end, they stopped the attack but still surrounded Long Chen.

The girl walked out of the forest. She appeared to be with them and looked roughly the same age as Long Chen. She was almost as tall as him too, and her wheat-colored skin was surprisingly supple.

She was a beauty, but for some reason, she also exuded the same wildness as the other youths. She was like a jaguar that could pounce at any time.

“Jun’er, why are you killing people for no reason?” Her movements were swift, but her voice was light.

“Big Sister, stop meddling with us. He’s the stupid one. He’s only at the Heavenly Martial Stage and yet he’s walking around alone. Isn’t he asking to die? Rather than dying in the hands of others, I would rather have him die in mine. At least his stuff won’t go to waste.”

“Don’t say such nonsense, and don’t kill the innocent! Bullying the meek while fearing the strong is not what a man should do. You will never become the hero of the Barbaric Bear Tribe like this.”

She told the others to step back before she apologized to Long Chen.

“Sorry about my brother. He’s too rash and he might’ve startled you, brother. I’m Xiong Wan’er.”

Long Chen was sweating. She was visibly older than him, yet she referred to him as if he was older.

“Don’t worry.” Long Chen had a lot of questions, and he thought that Xiong Wan’er was someone he could talk to. “I’m Long Chen.”

“Nobody wants to know your name. Are you trying to court my sister? I will smash you into minced meat.” Xiong Jun raised his meaty fist and glared at Long Chen.

“Silence,” Xiong Wan’er said. “My brother has been rash ever since he was young, so I’m sorry. Brother Long Chen, you are indeed a brave one. You are only at the First Heavenly Martial Stage and yet you dare to walk around here alone. Are you from Scarlet Water City? Judging from your clothes, it looks like you came from there. It’s dangerous to be alone. Why don’t you follow us so we can take you back?”

Even though Long Chen didn’t know where it was, he was certain that there would be more information in a city, including the way to the Swordsoul Palace. Long Chen was about to agree when Xiong Jun frowned.

“Sister, you are too careless. How could you ask a stranger to join us? Even if he doesn’t want to harm us, he will get in the way if we encounter an enemy! I won’t do it!”

“I won’t do it either!”

“Me neither!”

Xiong Wan’er was at a loss at what to do.

“It’s alright, I can go back on my own. Goodbye.” Long Chen didn’t want to cause trouble for Xiong Wan’er, so he chose a random direction and walked off.

“What a strange guy,” mumbled Xiong Wan’er.

“Hmph! He’s just looking to die. Sister, ignore him for now. We need to go to Scarlet Water City as soon as possible. If the Underworld Soldier leaves before I get there, I will lose my only chance,” Xiong Jun said.

“Alright.”

They tidied themselves up and then headed towards Scarlet Water City. When they were gone, Long Chen appeared from the darkness. He chuckled as he tailed them. “I can reach Scarlet Water City by following them.”

With Sight, he could follow their trail without any worries of being discovered.

The weakest in the group was at the Second Heavenly Martial Stage. As long as Long Chen maintained his distance, he would be able to follow them without much issue.

“To think that those youths are all at the Heavenly Martial Realm. The Three Royal Territories is truly a fearsome place ...”

He was very surprised by the youths.

But he also knew that the laws of the Three Royal Territories were much harsher compared to the Ancient Graveyard.

After following them for a while, he had a feeling that he was slowly leaving the jungle.

Several hours later, Long Chen stopped and smiled helplessly. There was a group of people blocking the Barbaric Bear Tribe.

The two groups fought madly.

The other group appeared to be slightly stronger than the Barbaric Bear Tribe. If things went on like this, everyone would die and Long Chen won't be able to reach Scarlet Water City.

Also, Xiong Wan'er was a good person, so Long Chen didn't want her to die. Therefore, he ran towards the fight. It was a brutal scene. The fight had barely started, but two youths were already dead with their organs crushed internally.

Blood sprayed everywhere.

"Sister, run!"

Xiong Jun roared indignantly at his sister.

"I will come and rescue you!" Xiong Wan'er shouted.

"What a nice young lady. Serve us well and we will let your brother go. How does that sound?"

"Be obedient. The more obedient you are, the fewer people we will kill."

Sinister laughter reached Long Chen's ears.

Tip: You can use left, right keyboard keys to browse between chapters.

Chapter 881 - Amateur

Chapter 881 - Amateur

There were seven men in black in the other group. They looked much older. Long Chen estimated that they were in their thirties, which meant that their true age was somewhere in the hundreds. At their current age, they were seen as young adults in the Three Royal Territories.

They were not people who the Barbaric Bear Tribe could deal with right now. Each of them was at the Third and Fourth Stages of the Heavenly Martial Realm; they were also exuding dense killing intent and bloodlust, meaning that they had murdered even more people than the average cultivator. The youths could never win against them.

Even though they were fewer in number, their cultivation levels were higher and their techniques were stronger. They showed no mercy when they killed, and they took their victims' storage rings with ease.

Three youths had died by the time Long Chen arrived. The ones who were dead were at the Second Heavenly Martial Stage. To think that people who could've ruled the Ten Thousand Nations Territory would die just like that.

Even though the youths and the men in black were roughly the same strength, the gap in battle experience was vast. That was why the youths had died.

Jun Xiong was very brave, because he was fighting an opponent at the Fourth Heavenly Martial Stage and was even pushing the man back! Every time Jun Xiong punched, his fist unleashed a profound destructive power. It looked simple, but it was powerful. Long Chen was certain that someone at the Long-Bearded Guest's level would die with just one hit.

Everyone except for Jun Xiong was losing their battle, including the girl called Xiong Wan'er.

She was at the Third Heavenly Martial Stage, but two men at the Fourth Heavenly Martial Stage were suppressing her. They completely overpowered her and started tearing off her clothes without mercy.

"Little lady, stop moving or I will kill you!"

The men pushed her down and smiled deviously.

"Sister!" Xiong Jun's eyes were red from anger. He tried to break away from his fight to save his sister, but this only gave his enemy a chance to attack him!

"Ground Splitting Seal!"

A large seal appeared in the man's palm as he ran towards Xiong Jun's back. The golden seal in his palm radiated a lot of power.

"Xiong Jun, behind you!" Xiong Wan'er cried.

Xiong Jun was almost hit by the man when Long Chen stepped in. He broke off a branch and threw it towards the man's face. The branch turned into a black streak and reached the man instantly!

The branch would never be able to block the man's intermediate Emperor-tier martial technique, but Long Chen's goal was to scare him. As expected, the man was shocked by the branch and jumped backwards.

Crack!

The branch stabbed into a tree, causing it to shake violently. Long Chen had thrown it with a lot of force.

“Who’s there?”

They were almost done killing the youths when someone stopped them. The men weren’t afraid, because they were used to killing. They stopped and charged towards Long Chen instead.

Using this chance, everyone except for Xiong Wan’er, who was still being held down, gathered together. They were now injured and weren’t looking as great as before.

They were confused too. Who had just saved them?

They saw a calm man walking out of the woods. He was tall and strong. It was none other than Long Chen!

“It’s you!” Both Xiong Jun and Xiong Wan’er were shocked, but soon, their surprise turned into sadness. They thought their elders were here to save them; they never thought it would be Long Chen.

It seemed they would all die here today.

“Why are you here?” Xiong Jun glared at Long Chen.

The others were speechless too. They had just bullied Long Chen and didn’t want him to see how disheveled they were.

After seeing their reactions and examining Long Chen’s aura, the men laughed. “So it’s just another amateur. You are indeed fearless for interrupting our hunt! You even scared our brother! We will torture and kill you for that!”

“Just do it. I can’t believe that you would get surprised by a chick. What a joke.”

“We will deal with the rest of them. You two can take your time, but don’t break her. We want to have our fun with her too. She’s too pretty to die right now; we have to keep her alive for a few days at least.”

The two men that were pinning Xiong Wan’er assured the rest that everything was fine. “Don’t worry and go crazy. Stop wasting time now. I can’t hold back anymore when I see her face like this.”

“Ha! You might be strong, but you will certainly lose to her in bed.”

“Hahaha!”

The men laughed and ignored Long Chen while Jun Xiong glared at them angrily.

“Leader, what should we do?”

“What else? Fight to the death!” Jun Xiong howled and was about to attack when someone stopped them.

“Go back.” Long Chen had his back to them as he took out the Three Thousand Star Clusters.

“What?” Xiong Jun thought he had misheard him. He grew angry at Long Chen and snapped back, “You better scram! I will skin you if something happens to my sister! I’ve actually skinned someone before!”

“Is that so?”

With a *whoosh*, the tip of the Three Thousand Star Cluster was positioned just in front of Xiong Jun’s nose. One more centimeter and it would’ve stabbed into his nose.

“So fast ...” Everyone was shocked because they couldn’t see Long Chen’s movement at all. Wasn’t he only at the Second Heavenly Martial Stage?

“How did he do that?”

“I didn’t see it.”

Xiong Jun was the most surprised. He hadn’t even seen the spear move before it was right in front of his nose.

Long Chen could stab him at any time.

Long Chen wasn’t the most patient person. Xiong Jun was boastful and arrogant, the type that wouldn’t learn until he was given a warning.

“One more peep from you and I will stab your eye. Don’t doubt me—I actually did that before.”

Bloodlust seeped out of Long Chen. It was the dense kind of bloodlust that only someone who had killed a lot of people could emanate. His bloodlust was stronger than that of everyone here. Xiong Jun thought he wasn’t looking at a man, but a massive beast.

So he stepped back silently.

“Boss, what’s wrong?” the others asked.

“He dares to point his spear towards us! We must kill him!”

“Wait, don’t move and don’t talk. Let him die. It doesn’t concern us,” Xiong Jun told them.

He didn’t know why, but he wanted to see Long Chen in action. He knew that Long Chen was only at the Second Heavenly Martial Stage. Could he really defeat all of the men?

The men were laughing at what Long Chen was doing. The two men who had been pinning down Xiong Wan’er couldn’t resist and tried to help themselves, but Xiong Wan’er wasn’t going to take it like that. She resisted wildly and used her essence to stop them.

She was also staring at Long Chen.

“It’s him again? Is he an Armament Warrior? His spear looks strong ...”

She was worried because Long Chen was weak; he was only at the Second Heavenly Martial Stage. How could he win against these men?

“Long Chen, run away! This doesn’t concern you at all!” Xiong Wan’er shouted amidst her sobbing.

“Stop talking and kill him now,” one of the men said. The others followed his order. They sent one of them to fight Long Chen while the others attacked the rest of the Barbaric Bear Tribe.

There are so many experts here even though I’ve just reached this place. It might be a bad idea to go into this without picking my fights carefully. I need to find more support here.

Long Chen was silent.

He only transformed into his dragon form. The blood-red scales covered his body in an instant.

“Is that a Beast Warrior? Interesting. A Beast Warrior and a Sword Warrior at the same time. But unfortunately, you are only at the Second Heavenly Martial Stage, so I can just kill you with my domain.”

The person facing Long Chen was at the Fourth Heavenly Martial Stage!

He unleashed his domain and covered Long Chen with it. Long Chen also had a domain, but since he was only at the Second Heavenly Martial Stage, it was useless against a Fourth Heavenly Martial Stage opponent.

Tip: You can use left, right keyboard keys to browse between chapters.

Chapter 882 - Nine Spinning Star Cluster

Chapter 882 - Nine Spinning Star Cluster

It was indeed difficult to face off against a Fourth Heavenly Martial Stage foe, especially since the domain was difficult to resist. But Long Chen wanted to test the strength of the Yin and Yang Sword Root, so he channeled the Yin and Yang energy into the Three Thousand Star Clusters.

While he was ignored by pretty much everyone, he suddenly released a blinding light. Even the men who were supposed to attack the rest of the Barbaric Bear Tribe decided to surround him instead.

“Hey, why does this Sword Warrior look strong?”

Their focus turned to Long Chen.

“Who cares? I will just test how strong he is!” The man who had used his domain laughed, then black mist wrapped around his body,

The man fashioned the black mist into something sharp before shooting it towards Long Chen!

“Blood Devouring Domain!”

The red space covered everyone. Long Chen had trapped five of the men inside of his Blood Devouring Domain!

Long Chen didn’t underestimate them, because he knew how strong they were. He used his Dragon Soul Transformation and the power of the Yin and Yang Sword Root. His body exploded in power as he roared. His Blood Devouring Domain and regular domain expanded outwards at the same time to destroy the other party’s domain.

“What is this?”

All five men shouted in fear.

“He’s too mysterious! He’s actually affecting our blood! Kill him quick!”

The men were experienced and immediately worked together to kill him. Killing their opponents had always been the most reliable way to survive a fight.

“River Blade!”

“Heavy Dragon Elephant Fist!”

“Sky Shaking Seal!”

“Earth Splitting Seal!”

Various attacks were launched towards Long Chen.

Back in the Ancient Graveyard, the Seven Lords had left a lot of treasures. That was how many of the cultivators obtained their advanced Emperor-tier martial techniques. But advanced Emperor-tier martial techniques weren’t common. If the demons were interested in them, they would’ve long taken them away.

That was why the experts in the Ten Thousand Nations Territory all had advanced Emperor-tier martial technique even though they were only at the Second Heavenly Martial Stage at most. The people in the Three Royal Territories mostly had elementary Emperor-tier martial techniques even though they were at the Fourth Heavenly Martial Stage. At most, they would have an intermediate Emperor-tier martial technique as their ultimate move.

But Long Chen had two advanced Emperor-tier martial techniques. One was the fusion of the Five Emperor Seals, and the other was the Three Thousand Star Clusters Spear Manual.

Long Chen’s eyes were serious as he swung the Three Thousand Star Clusters around him. The Blood Devouring Domain had not only drained the attackers’ strength, but also clouded their vision.

“Three Thousand Star Clusters Spear Manual, Nine Spinning Star Clusters!”

The Three Thousand Star Clusters Spear Manual complemented Long Chen’s domain and was performed perfectly. Now that Long Chen was at the Second Heavenly Martial Stage, he could use the Three Thousand Star Clusters more easily. A radiant starlight transformed into a sharp edge that swung around Long Chen like a whirlpool before it flew towards the men!

The Three Thousand Star Clusters Spear Manual was one of the strongest advanced Emperor-tier martial techniques!

When he used it, the numerous spears pierced through the men's techniques. Long Chen had roughly the same amount of essence as they did. Thanks to the Blood Devouring Domain's suppressive effect and the Yin and Yang Sword Root's incredible power, along with the advanced Emperor-tier martial technique and Divine Weapon, Long Chen was capable of suppressing all five of them at the same time!

"Ah!"

The men cried in pain when Long Chen thrust the spear. The starlight pierced through three men at the Third Heavenly Martial Stage and killed them instantly. To think that Long Chen was capable of killing someone at the Third Heavenly Martial Stage so easily!

The other two were at the Fourth Heavenly Martial Stage, but they were severely injured. Long Chen smacked and tossed them towards where Xiong Jun was. The two men coughed up blood as they flew through the air.

"Tie them up and hold them tight."

Long Chen's voice was cold.

Xiong Jun and the others were shocked. It wasn't until the two injured men landed in front of them that they tied them down. Xiong Jun's broad palm grabbed an injured man's neck. When he exerted a little force, the man's neck started bleeding and he coughed up blood. The man's face was pale as he stared at Long Chen. It was as if the latter was a demon.

To think that someone at the Second Heavenly Martial Stage could kill them so easily and so fast. They would've all been dead if Long Chen hadn't shown them mercy.

"How... How is he that strong?"

Xiong Jun and the others felt their scalps go numb when they looked at Long Chen and the ice-cold spear. Long Chen looked weak, but he was terrifying when he was serious! Xiong Jun had a feeling that the amount of people he had killed would not even amount to a tenth of Long Chen's body count.

Long Chen's bloodlust was definitely something he had accumulated by killing a lot of people.

"Come here!"

Xiong Jun and the others brought their hostages to Long Chen after hearing his command. They knew that Long Chen was going to exchange hostages for Xiong Wan'er. Xiong Jun changed the way he viewed Long Chen. Rather than underestimating him, he was now very grateful.

"Big Brother, I'm sorry for offending you just now. I will kneel down if you save my sister."

Xiong Jun wasn't that bad after all. At the very least he was honest.

Long Chen ignored him and instead looked at the two remaining men. "I won't say much. Give her back to me in one piece and I won't kill you. I can rescue her if I use my full strength, but I can't guarantee your lives if I do."

His cold voice, icy stare, and bloodlust were very oppressive. The men holding onto Xiong Wan'er were scared even though they regularly killed people for fun.

The hands holding onto Xiong Wan'er loosened a little.

Xiong Wan'er was at the Third Heavenly Martial Stage, so she wasn't weak at all. While the two men were stunned, she gathered her essence and punched backwards. She used the impact to run towards Long Chen.

Long Chen was very satisfied with her reaction. He ran to her to secure her safety.

Without a hostage, the two men looked at each other and said, "We've returned the girl. Please keep your word and return our brothers to us."

Long Chen chuckled. He let Xiong Wan'er get behind him and then swung the Three Thousand Star Clusters. "Unfortunately, she came back on her own accord!"

Long Chen charged towards the two men. He had already defeated five of them, so the remaining two were a piece of cake. Xiong Jun and the others watched in awe as Long Chen stabbed their limbs and crippled them completely. The fight ended swiftly.

The two men glared at Long Chen and cursed, "You brat! How dare you go back on your word! You said you wouldn't kill us! How dare you go back on your word as a warrior!"

Long Chen put the Three Thousand Star Clusters away and undid his transformation. He then smiled at them plainly. "First, I'm not a warrior. Second, I won't kill you. But that doesn't mean the others will let you live. Xiong Jun, attack!"

Long Chen's brutality and slyness had won Xiong Jun over completely. He laughed and snapped the hostages' necks before he ran towards the two men on the ground.

“You brat! You must die!” the two men shouted in despair.

“You have to pay the price one way or another. You should’ve prepared for a day like this. If I wasn’t here, they would’ve been the ones to die instead. Unfortunately, you won’t see me die.”

Right after Long Chen said that, Xiong Jun snapped their necks too. All seven of them had died by Long Chen’s hand just like that.

The Barbaric Bear Tribe looked at Long Chen with awe and respect.

They followed Xiong Jun and Xiong Wan’er to kneel down in front of Long Chen, saying, “Thank you for saving our lives!”

Xiong Jun said, “It was wrong of me to offend you last time, but you did not take it to heart and even rescued us! I wish to become your servant and work for you!”

Long Chen chuckled. “There’s no need to become my servant. I just want to ask if I’m qualified to join your journey to Scarlet Water City?”

Xiong Wan’er chuckled. “Of course. It’s our honor to have you protecting us, Big Brother Long Chen.”

“In that case, let’s go. The stench of blood is very heavy here. We need to leave now if we don’t want to die!”

“Alright!” With Long Chen guarding them, they were all smiling happily. Long Chen’s performance had won them over.

Long Chen smiled bitterly when they called him “big brother.” He was definitely younger than them, but they all thought he was older.

It was normal for someone to look like Long Chen in their twenties. Unfortunately, everyone grew up slower here in the Three Royal Territories.

Tip: You can use left, right keyboard keys to browse between chapters.

Chapter 883 - Eastern Royal District

Chapter 883 - Eastern Royal District

Long Chen could finally ask them the questions he had when he officially joined them. Because Xiong Wan'er was older and more mature, she knew more about the world. She was also reliable, so Long Chen chose to stay by her side to talk to her.

The others started teasing her when they saw Long Chen giving her preferential treatment. Xiong Wan'er blushed and didn't know what to do.

But Long Chen was used to it. They were only staying together for a little while, so he didn't mind. He said to Xiong Wan'er, "I'm not from Scarlet Water City. I want to go there, but I don't know the way. I can't tell you where I'm from. Wan'er, can you tell me about this place?"

Xiong Wan'er was surprised because she was right! Long Chen was indeed mysterious. She was curious about his origin, but she explained everything as best as she could. "It seems that you can control and hide your presence very well. Are you not from the Eastern Royal District?"

"Eastern Royal District?" Another new name. Long Chen smiled bitterly and shook his head. "No."

"Not even from the Eastern Royal District?" Xiong Wan'er was surprised. "If you are not from there, then it's a miracle you could get here. It seems that you've traveled through a lot of places."

Long Chen laughed dryly and chose to admit it.

Xiong Wan'er explained, "There are four districts in the True Martial Territory. The Eastern Royal District is where we are at. It's extremely large, taking up roughly a fifth of the True Martial Territory. There are one hundred and eight estates, ten thousand main cities, a million medium-sized cities, and a hundred million small cities. We are now in the range of one of the estates called the Underworld Estate. We from the Barbaric Bear Tribe live along the edges of Scarlet Water City, which is one of the hundred million small cities. We are now in the forest between Scarlet Water City and the Barbaric Bear Tribe. Do you understand?"

Long Chen understood, and he was thoroughly frightened by the numbers.

Now he knew that the True Martial Territory was divided into five areas, with the central area being the most likely location of the True Martial Overlord Palace. There were also four districts corresponding with each cardinal direction. The Eastern Royal District had one hundred and eight estates. Long Chen was currently in the territory of the Underworld Estate. He made a rough calculation and estimated that the Underworld Estate was in charge of a hundred main cities, with each main city governing a hundred medium cities, and each medium city governing a hundred small cities.

Was the True Martial Territory this massive?

“So right now we are in the True Martial Territory, Eastern Royal District, Underworld Estate, Underworld City, Scarlet Sun Medium City, and Scarlet Water City. Big Brother Long Chen, am I being clear enough?”

But she was surprised to find Long Chen deep in thought.

“Big Brother Long Chen, what’s going on?” Xiong Wan’er was worried.

“Oh, it’s nothing.” Long Chen smiled.

He was actually secretly scolding the six demons from before. They had never told him how far away the Swordsoul Territory was. Long Chen asked gingerly, “Wan’er, do you know where the Swordsoul Territory is? Which direction is it in?”

According to her, there were four Royal Districts, one in each cardinal direction. He had a feeling that he was at the easternmost part of the Eastern Royal District.

“I know. It’s to the west.”

“West ...?”

Long Chen took a deep breath. He was all the way to the east, but his destination was all the way to the west. It would take tens of years for Long Chen to get there!

He made a rough calculation based on the size of Scarlet Water City. If the Underworld Estate controlled a hundred million of such cities, it would take Long Chen a lot of time to pass through all of them ...

“Big Brother, what’s wrong?” Xiong Wan’er noticed that something was wrong with Long Chen.

He calmed down and asked, “Wan’er, how can I reach the Swordsoul Territory as soon as possible?”

“What?” For someone born here, it was almost impossible for them to travel to the Swordsoul Territory from where they had lived their whole lives. That was why she was shocked.

It took some time before she thought of an answer. “The space here is very stable, so it’s very difficult to make a Universal Teleporter. But I heard that they have one in the Underworld Estate. It’s connected to the other estates and even the center of the Eastern Royal District. But there’s no Universal Teleporter that connects to the other territories even in the True Martial Overlord Palace. To reach the Swordsoul Territory, you must pass through the Fragmented Starfield. A lot of natural disasters occur there though, so I doubt you can pass through it unless you’re at the Divine Martial Realm.”

Xiong Wan'er's explanation was like a hammer that deterred Long Chen. Her final words dealt a massive blow to him.

"The Universal Teleporter is inside the Underworld Estate. To use it, you must first get the approval of the master and prepare something like Emperor Crystals to activate it. Big Brother Long Chen, I hope I'm not being rude, but I fear that it will be impossible for you to use it now. You're not even qualified to talk to the master if you're not at the Divine Martial Realm."

Long Chen sighed after a very long time. He needed time to sort out his thoughts.

"Oh ho, are you quitting now? You should just go back to the Ten Thousand Nations Territory, then. There are many beautiful ladies waiting for you there. That said, Wu Lian was really sexy. Her body was second to none. To think that I had the chance to watch it live for several hours. What an amazing time it was!"

Little Cat took the chance to tease Long Chen.

"I know it won't be easy to meet Ling Xi, but at least I have a goal. This is good. Now I just need to reach the Divine Martial Realm! And then I must go to the Underworld City! It should be the center of the Underworld Estate."

Outlining each step was an important part of the process of reaching a goal.

Long Chen was only at the Second Heavenly Martial Stage. It would be a long journey to reach the Divine Martial Realm. Even with his talent and potential, it would still take him five to six years! Although that was considered ridiculously fast, it was too slow for Long Chen!

Long Chen had learned what he needed. He was initially shocked by the numbers, but then he got excited because of the challenge. This was the life he wanted.

But would he be able to meet Ling Xi sooner than that?

That might not be the case.

But for some reason, Long Chen had a feeling that he would meet her soon enough. It was just a gut feeling.

Xiao Xi, are you near me?

Long Chen looked around but saw nothing.

"Big Brother, do you want to go to the Swordsoul Territory?" Xiong Wan'er looked at him curiously.

"I was just asking out of curiosity. As you know, I'm a Sword Warrior. I've heard that the Swordsoul Territory is where Sword Warriors are from. I just want to go there and see the place."

Long Chen came up with a random excuse.

"Is that so ..." Xiong Wan'er nodded.

"Oh, then why are you heading to Scarlet Water City?"

Long Chen recalled that they were heading there because of the Underworld Soldiers.

"Us?" Xiong Wan'er looked at her brother, who had been sneaking glances at them, before explaining, "My brother's dream is to join the Underworld Soldiers. The Underworld Soldiers are the personification of rank and status. If he became one, our tribe would naturally get better resources. Even the mayor of Scarlet Water City would have to treat my brother with respect. Of course, this is just his dream."

"The test to join the Underworld Soldiers is strict. They must first inspect your family. More importantly, the applicants must be at least at the Seventh Heavenly Martial Stage. My brother doesn't even meet the basic requirements ..."

"At least at the Seventh Heavenly Martial Stage? And it's just an army?" Long Chena asked tentatively because it sounded horrifying to have an army full of soldiers at the Seventh Heavenly Martial Stage.

"Yes. Becoming an Underworld Soldier is everyone's dream. My brother shares that dream with many. We heard that an Underworld Soldier was in Scarlet Water City, so my brother wanted to go there urgently. He is hoping that the Underworld Soldier will accept him as a disciple. There's a good chance that the disciple of an Underworld Soldier will join them in the future. But my brother is just there to test his luck."

Long Chen saw how much Xiong Wan'er pampered her brother based on the gentle look in her eyes.

"How many people are in the Underworld Soldiers?"

Long Chen had heard the demons mention them. It appeared that they were very wary of them even though they were at the Category Nine Emperor-tier. Still, the Underworld Soldiers were all at least at the Seventh Heavenly Martial Stage, so they had good reason to be wary.

Based on their numbers, Long Chen could estimate how strong the Underworld Estate was and calculate how many experts they had.

“The Underworld Soldiers? I think there are ninety million of them throughout the entirety of the Underworld Estate. I’m fairly certain the number is close to a hundred million.”

“Nine... Ninety million?!” Long Chen stopped walking out of surprise.

He would’ve cursed like crazy if no one was beside him. How strong was the True Martial Territory?! The Underworld Estate of the Eastern Royal District had close to a hundred million Underworld Soldiers! Long Chen was certain that there were countless experts who didn’t join the Underworld Soldiers. Didn’t that mean that there were at least five hundred million experts beyond the Seventh Heavenly Martial Stage?

With a rough calculation of ten million small cities in the Underworld Estate, and with each city having tens of thousands of people, that meant that there were tens of billions of people here in the Underworld Estate alone!

Shit! How monstrously large is this place?

Long Chen was now in an unending sea of humans. He couldn’t even be considered a grain of sand here.

Tip: You can use left, right keyboard keys to browse between chapters.

Chapter 884 - True Martial Overlord Soul

Chapter 884 - True Martial Overlord Soul

"Joining the Underworld Soldiers elevates one’s status and earns the respect of others. More importantly, Underworld Soldiers have access to Divine-tier martial techniques. If you join them and your performance is excellent for a year, you are given a Divine-tier martial technique."

Xiong Wan’er was visibly excited when she talked about the Divine-tier martial technique.

There was only one Divine-tier martial technique in the Ten Thousand Nations Territory, and that was the Emperor’s Manual. But now Long Chen learned that almost all ninety-million Underworld Soldiers would be given one.

He felt numb after hearing the shocking information.

Long Chen and Xiong Wan'er discussed more as they traveled to Scarlet Water City. After some time, they exited the forest and reached a large plain. The soil was a rusty red and incredibly coarse. It gave off an air of desolation.

They spotted a small city on the horizon. It looked rusty from afar, and it was most likely the destination of Xiong Jun and the others, Scarlet Water City.

"Sister, we are almost there. I really hope that I will get to meet the Underworld Soldier and become his disciple!"

"Silly brother, you are too rash. The Underworld Soldier is very highly ranked. Don't cause any trouble for them, or they will kill you and our tribe."

"I know, I know. You are nagging me too much. Also, what have you been talking about with Big Brother Long Chen?"

"Nothing. We spoke about nothing! Stop trying to embarrass me!" She punched and chased after her naughty brother.

They were much safer now that they had exited the forest, so they relaxed a bit. They talked and joked as they made their way to the city.

Soon, they found themselves in front of the city. It had been built beside a scarlet river. It was called the Scarlet Water River due to its rusty color, and the city was named after it.

It wasn't a large city, and there were numerous cities of this size in the Divine Martial Empire. It would fit at most tens of thousands of people, but Long Chen felt an unseen pressure in his heart whenever he thought that there were a hundred million of such cities in just the Eastern Royal District.

"The city is managed by the mayor, and it has its own army. Some of our tribe's people are soldiers. Still, we shouldn't cause any trouble when we enter the city."

Xiong Wan'er warned everyone, including Long Chen, before they entered the city.

Compared to the others, Long Chen's body was more slender and his aura wasn't strong, so he wasn't that attention-grabbing.

Long Chen never stopped observing the people and his surroundings when he was outside the city. Most of the city's soldiers were at least at the Heavenly Martial Realm. There were groups of them, each as strong as Lei Ji, but all of them were working low-ranking jobs.

Naturally, there were civilians below the Heavenly Martial Realm here. There were even children who had yet to reach the Three Martial Realms. It was just a small and normal city, but everyone here was a cultivator. It was an unnatural sight.

Because the Barbaric Bear Tribe had people working in the city, they were more familiar with the area. Xiong Jun was also quite famous in the tribe because he had reached the Fourth Heavenly Martial Stage at such a young age. It was very likely that he had come to Scarlet Water City numerous times before since he had connections with some of the people there. He only needed to talk with the army for a while before they let everyone, including Long Chen, into the city.

Long Chen followed them in and looked around.

There are a lot of experts in the Three Royal Territories, and almost everyone is a cultivator. To think that a tenth of the people here in this small city are already at the Heavenly Martial Realm. But the livelihood and culture of the people here are similar to the Ten Thousand Nations Territory.

Also... To think that the city walls are so tough. Can I even put a dent on them if I use my full strength at the Fifth Heavenly Martial Stage?

This was an important question.

Long Chen had to admit that he felt that he was back in Baiyang Town. Scarlet Water City's situation resembled Baiyang Town a lot.

"Sister, I want to stay in the inn that we stayed at last time. After we book our rooms, we can head to the mayor's estate to see if we can get any information on the Underworld Soldier."

Xiong Wan'er nodded. "Alright, let's do that."

Long Chen didn't know the layout of Scarlet Water City, so he decided to stay with them for now. He also wanted to use this chance to see an Underworld Soldier up close.

Someone at the Seventh Heavenly Martial Stage was far too strong for him to fight.

Xiong Jun was somehow loaded, so he booked the most luxurious inn in the city. He even booked an extra separate room for Long Chen alone.

"Such toughness!" Long Chen was sweating when he touched the materials of the room. A single punch from him could've demolished the entire inn in the Ten Thousand Nations Territory. But due to the overlord spiritual energy, the materials here were extremely tough, to the point that a single punch from him only lightly shook the room.

Long Chen had to reconsider his plan after being left alone in the room.

I'm too weak to go to the Underworld Estate right now. I need to become stronger, at least up to the Seventh Heavenly Martial Stage. Only then can I go there. I have to do it while I'm traveling.

But first, I need to find a map of the Underworld Estate.

Long Chen planned to stay here for a bit longer to observe the situation. He didn't know his way around yet, so it would be unwise to act impulsively.

Thankfully, he had Sight, so he would notice the moment anyone entered his range.

He took out the Heavenly Martial Fist Manual and started looking at it again.

Suddenly, he had a daring thought.

Do I really need the manual to cultivate the Heavenly Martial Realm? Are there any other methods?

To him, the Heavenly Martial Fist Manual was profound, so it would take him a long time to study it. Even the people in the Three Royal Territories followed the Heavenly Martial Fist Manual step by step. Both the Earthly Martial Fist Manual and the Heavenly Martial Fist Manual had been left behind by the ancestors of mankind and were widely spread.

If the manuals didn't exist, then the Dragon Continent would've been much weaker than it was right now.

After studying the manual for a bit, Long Chen started to study the Emperor's Manual and the Emperor Vanquishers.

While looking at them, he suddenly recalled that he had the True Martial Overlord Soul. The Five Emperors had told him that it was an important object that even the Demon Tribe had tried to steal.

He took the little gray ball out of the Primordial Realm and twirled it around his fingers. There was a faint, gray shadow inside the ball, but he had no idea what it was.

"Hm?" Long Chen suddenly realized that the True Martial Overlord Soul was shaking lightly in his palm.

"What is this? Is it afraid?" Long Chen thought he had misunderstood it, because the little gray ball appeared to be afraid of him.

What was it afraid of?

Long Chen paid closer attention to it before realizing that the Dragon Jade Pendant inside his sea of consciousness was reacting slightly.

The Dragon Jade Pendant was shaped like a dragon, and its eyes were lit up and it was staring at the True Martial Overlord Soul! That was most likely the reason why the True Martial Overlord Soul was shaking.

Long Chen finally understood what was happening.

So it's the Dragon Jade Pendant that's spooking the True Martial Overlord Soul. I suppose that's normal if the Dragon Jade Pendant can even suppress the Inherited Blood Essence of an Ancestor Dragon.

Long Chen had a profound feeling because he could sense the oppressive aura coming from the eyes from the Dragon Jade Pendant. The oppressive feeling was even stronger than what the Inherited Blood Essence of the Ancestor Dragon gave off. He quickly retreated from his own sea of consciousness.

"Big Brother Long Chen!"

Just then, he heard someone calling his name in a panic.

He quickly put the True Martial Overlord Soul away and stood up. The strange eyes of the Dragon Jade Pendant died down when Long Chen put the True Martial Overlord Soul back in the Primordial Realm.

Long Chen sighed in relief when he saw that everything was back to normal.

At that moment, Xiong Wan'er charged into the room, her face pale. "Big Brother! Jun... Jun'er is fighting with someone below! That person is very strong!"

Xiong Jun was fighting someone?

Long Chen didn't want to fight anyone, but because he was traveling with Xiong Jun and the rest, he thought that it was only right to play his part in helping them. Long Chen trusted in fate, so he ran down without any hesitation to help him.

He could see the situation on the ground floor from the corridor above. Everyone in the main hall had retreated to the sides and watched the fight in the middle.

Xiong Jun and the other youths from the Barbaric Bear Tribe were fighting against a young lady. Or rather, the young lady was dominating them. She was ruthless and injured two of the youths within seconds.

"You guys, stand back! I will hold her off!"

Xiong Jun roared because he could not afford to see any more of his friends get injured. He ran to the front and punched the young lady numerous times.

His body was bulky and rippling with muscles. Every time he punched, his muscles contracted explosively as the air echoed with dull *thuds*.

It was clear that Xiong Jun was strong, seeing as he could disturb even the dense overlord spiritual energy in the air.

But the young lady was even stronger!

Tip: You can use left, right keyboard keys to browse between chapters.

Chapter 885 - Conflict in Scarlet Water City

Chapter 885 - Conflict in Scarlet Water City

The young lady appeared to have come from a well-to-do family. She was wearing red robes with a fox-fur cape. Her hair was tied up and she had a toned body, which was surprisingly strong yet nimble. Her face was pretty, but unfortunately, her eyes exuded a venomous glare and ruthlessness.

“How dare you look at me? I will gouge out your eyes!” the girl shouted as she punched at Xiong Jun. Her fist was filled with the profoundness of the Heavenly Martial Realm, and she pushed Xiong Jun back!

“Domain!”

She released her domain and completely suppressed Xiong Jun. Her domain was even larger than Xiong Jun’s at the Fourth Heavenly Martial Stage. Long Chen was surprised to find that she was at the Fifth Heavenly Martial Stage!

It was no surprise that she could fight all of them at the same time. It was due to her superior cultivation level!

Based on her clothes, she appeared to be one of the nobles here in Scarlet Water City.

“True Divine Fire Scripture, Nine-Winged Blazing Bird!”

She did not hold back at all. Fire covered her body and the clear cry of a bird sounded. She then threw out a punch that manifested a burning bird that threatened to consume Xiong Jun!

“Xiong Jun!” Xiong Wan’er, who had just exited Long Chen’s room, was surprised to see such a scene.

Everyone else in the main hall was surprised too. They were certain that Xiong Jun would die at the hands of the lady. Additionally, the others from the Barbaric Bear Tribe standing behind Xiong Jun would be injured too!

It was just a small altercation and yet the lady was being completely ruthless in public. No one could do anything at this point.

“Sigh. Those guys have no one but themselves to blame. To think that they would even glance at the little princess of the Liu family. Everyone here knows that she’s a little tyrant. Even though her family isn’t large, they are still influential here because of their connections to the mayor.”

“That young man is dead for sure.”

“Everyone who catches her ire is sure to die.”

The intense flames broke through Xiong Jun’s techniques and threatened to swallow him whole!

Shit! I didn’t even get to meet the Underworld Soldier yet, and now I’m going to die by her hand! Dammit! She’s so ruthless! I only looked at her a couple of times and now she wants to kill me!

Xiong Jun’s eyes were bloodshot from anger.

At the last moment, a strong wind blew past them. Xiong Jun and the others were shoved away by someone. The attack from Liu Qing'er missed and the fiery bird crashed into the wall of the inn. A massive hole formed on the wall, and smoke billowed everywhere.

“Who are you? Who dares to interfere with me killing someone? Get out here!”

The lady was angry, and her frosty killing intent spread out. She was glaring at everyone.

No one actually dared to stop Liu Qing'er when she was angry.

Everyone remained motionless, but they were also looking around to see who had helped Xiong Jun.

Everyone almost immediately looked at Long Chen, who was currently standing in front of him.

"Big Brother Long Chen ..." Xiong Jun had been saved once again. He was looking at Long Chen like a savior.

"Go and treat them." Long Chen had silently become their backbone. Liu Qing'er glared at him. She knew instantly that Long Chen wasn't from the Barbaric Bear Tribe.

She didn't want to accidentally kill someone from an influential family, so she asked tentatively, "Who are you?" Long Chen gave her a very weird feeling.

"That's not important, little lady. You should stop now. I know you have some kind of fight with them, but you've already injured them enough. I think we can stop here for today. This is Scarlet Water City, and this is an inn. Everyone is having their meals and resting here, yet you want to murder someone? I don't think that's appropriate. Let's stop here; there is no need to escalate things further, alright?"

Long Chen's tone was very courteous.

He had seen girls like her before. It was because of their family's influence that they became arrogant and didn't even think twice about killing someone. Long Chen had just arrived here and didn't want to offend anyone.

Under normal circumstances, he would've slapped her already.

Liu Qing'er observed Long Chen. She could easily tell that he was only between the First and Third Heavenly Martial Stage.

He doesn't have a background, and he's weak. He's just an idiot.

After making a brief assessment, Liu Qing'er knew what to do.

She covered her mouth and chuckled. "You are right, but they've offended me, so they need to pay the price. Why don't you take their punishment for them? Give me your life, and I will spare them. Wouldn't it be kind of me to let them all go for the price of just one life?"

She proceeded to laugh at her own joke.

She was young and yet her heart was as cruel as a demon's. Xiong Wan'er was already biting her lip and was on the verge of crying when she heard that.

"No! I must pay for my own mistake! Big Brother Long Chen, let me die!"

Xiong Jun was angry and tried to step forward, but Long Chen pushed him back.

Long Chen said calmly, "Let's make a bet instead. We can fight for one round. You will scram if you lose, but if you win, you can take my life."

“Hm?”

Liu Qing'er thought Long Chen was joking.

“You are interesting. Alright, then, as you wish.”

Flames covered Liu Qing'er's body again.

“Fifth Heavenly Martial Stage?”

Long Chen had to admit that she was his strongest opponent so far. He was only at the Second Heavenly Martial Stage. Everyone else was certain that Long Chen would lose.

Liu Qing'er was interested in seeing why Long Chen was brave enough to fight her.

“He must be stupid. He's only at the Second Heavenly Martial Stage—he's going to die for sure.”

“I think he's doing it to save them. People like him are rare nowadays.”

“Liu Qing'er is really crossing the line right now. She's pretty, so it's normal for people to look at her...”

“Shh, be quiet or she will kill you next.”

The customers talked amongst themselves about the fight.

“Ready to die?” Liu Qing'er chuckled.

Long Chen ignored her. He would go all-out since she had already agreed to the fight in front of everyone.

“Domain!”

At her cultivation level, her domain was more than strong enough to suppress someone three stages lower than her like Long Chen. The oppressive feeling enveloped Long Chen and almost made him kneel. His knees slowly bend downwards from the pressure.

“Kneel down to me.” Liu Qing'er laughed as she used her domain to test Long Chen. She was certain now that he was only at the Second Heavenly Martial Stage and was weaker than the youths she had beaten up just now.

“You dare to shield them despite being weaker? What a joke. Time to die!”

Liu Qing'er had no patience for someone so weak, so she tried to use her domain to crush Long Chen directly!

"Churn and rip!"

Liu Qing'er's Domain became exceedingly chaotic, and the wild energy inside of it slammed on Long Chen's body repeatedly. He would die if he did nothing.

"Is this as strong as your domain can get?"

Long Chen chuckled. His knees, which had been bending slowly, gradually straightened. He then transformed, blood-red scales covering his body. He turned into a bloodthirsty war machine, and the primordial bloodlust covered the entire place.

"Three Thousand Star Clusters, Yin and Yang Sword Root, and the Five Emperor Palm!"

Long Chen's strength increased explosively to a terrifying degree. He held onto the Three Thousand Star Clusters and channeled the power of the Yin and Yang Sword Root into it. His strength was multiplied by ten times.

He also used the Five Emperor Palm for the first time.

The familiar power circulated from his palm into his body. The five-colored essence fused with his own harmoniously and became a terrifying force. For every one unit of his Dragon Soul Essence, he could control nine units of the five-colored essence.

Long Chen was now stronger than a regular Fifth Heavenly Martial Stage cultivator!

It took him just a moment to grow explosively and become a being capable of destroying Liu Qing'er! Everyone was shocked by the sudden rise in strength, but before anyone could react, Long Chen turned into the wind and charged at Liu Qing'er!

"Three Thousand Star Clusters Spear Manual, Nine Spinning Star Clusters!"

Long Chen expanded his domain, and the stars turned wildly inside it. He transformed into a spear of starlight while Liu Qing'er thought the entire galaxy was crashing down on her!

"What's happening?!" She was surprised by Long Chen's sudden growth!

A weakling that she could kill at any time had suddenly become someone that could kill her! How could someone grow so strong?

Liu Qing'er realized that Long Chen had been hiding his strength all this time!

That was why he had rescued Xiong Jun and the others just now!

“Damn!”

Liu Qing'er punched, and the fiery bird appeared again. This time, she used her full power and directed it at Long Chen.

“Die!”

Tip: You can use left, right keyboard keys to browse between chapters.

Chapter 886 - Heavenly Fortune Pill

Chapter 886 - Heavenly Fortune Pill

The attack was too weak for Long Chen. With the reinforcement of the Five Emperor Palm, Long Chen pierced through her technique. The glittering Three Thousand Star Clusters was placed against her throat in an instant. The sharp tip made a tiny wound on her neck, drawing a single drop of blood.

It wasn't lethal, but everyone was still shocked because Long Chen would've killed her if he pushed the Three Thousand Star Cluster with just a bit more force.

Liu Qing'er would've been dead if Long Chen had not shown her mercy.

Everyone was shocked by this outcome.

The result had been determined in just a single instant.

“Young lady, the winner has been decided. Please honor your words.”

Long Chen smiled and put the Three Thousand Star Clusters away.

He hadn't killed her because they were in Scarlet Water City. He would've ended her life without hesitation if they were outside.

Liu Qing'er was still dazed because she couldn't believe the outcome of the battle, but the pain on her neck was a clear sign that she had lost. She would've died if Long Chen hadn't shown mercy.

But she grew angry because she had never tasted what it was like to be granted mercy by someone else!

Her eyes were wide as she looked at Long Chen with undeniable killing intent.

“What’s wrong? You aren’t satisfied with the result?” Long Chen wasn’t afraid of her, so he looked at her with a grin.

Liu Qing’er had no choice but to hold back her killing intent right now. She needed to maintain her reputation, so she could not embarrass herself here.

“What’s your name?”

“Long Chen.”

Long Chen undid his transformation.

“Long Chen? Hehe.”

She chuckled and left without saying anything. Even though she was the one who had wrecked the inn, the owner dared not ask her for any payments. It was clear that Liu Qing’er was slightly influential here in Scarlet Water City.

She was halfway outside when she turned and looked at him. “You will be staying here for some time, right? You don’t look like you are from here.”

“Who said that I’m not from Scarlet Water City?”

“Haha!” Liu Qing’er laughed. She was just about to leave when a large commotion came from afar.

At the same time, Long Chen was checking on Xiong Jun and the others. Thankfully, he had intervened right on time, so most of them weren’t seriously injured. They would recover soon if they rested for a bit.

Xiong Jun lowered his head, “Big Brother Long Chen, I’m sorry for causing trouble for you.”

Long Chen smiled because he knew that this was indeed going to be troublesome for him. Liu Qing’er was a vicious person, so there was no chance she would let the matter go, but there was nothing Long Chen could do but smile helplessly. “It seems that your plan is done for. You should head back to your tribe as soon as possible. She’s aiming for my head, so I can just stay here until all of you have gone back.”

“No! We can’t just leave you behind!” Xiong Wan’er refused to let Long Chen stay here alone. Xiong Jun was the one who had incurred the wrath of Liu Qing’er, so there was no way he could leave Long Chen alone here to fight.

“No, you guys will be dragging me down by staying here.”

They were indeed holding Long Chen back. If he was alone, he could offend anyone and just escape using Blood Warp. He wouldn’t have to make any extra effort to save anyone.

Xiong Jun and the others nodded only after he said that.

But the large commotion outside soon reached the entrance of the inn. Long Chen raised his head and saw several people dressed in exquisite outfits enter. Liu Qing’er was smiling and holding onto the arm of one of them. Her moody and vicious face had completely changed into a kind smile.

The man she was holding onto was large and burly, not dissimilar to Xiong Jun. But while Xiong Jun looked barbaric, the man looked more refined, like a noble. He wore a blue robe, had short hair, and his eyes were sharp. He looked like a bear that had learned etiquette and kept all of its bloodthirst deep in its eyes.

Beside the man was a middle-aged man. He had black hair and a beard and he maintained a constant smile. He looked very approachable, but Long Chen knew that people like him were very strong.

Long Chen couldn’t detect how strong the man was, but it was most likely above the Seventh Heavenly Martial Stage, or at least very close to the demons from before.

The demons were indeed weak here in the Three Royal Territory. There were already several individuals who were as strong as them even though Long Chen was only in a small place like Scarlet Water City.

But the man wasn’t the center of everyone’s attention.

The man was passionately escorting someone else. A man jumped down from an entirely black war horse. When Long Chen saw the horse, he had a strange feeling, so he used Sight. To his surprise, the horse didn’t have a soul! Rather, there was a massive lump of energy inside it. Long Chen noted that the horse itself was almost as strong as the man riding it.

More importantly, rather than a living being, the horse was made from some unknown metal. Its blood-red eyes were lifeless, but they still glittered with light as if they were paper lanterns.

What is that? A puppet? How is it that strong?

Back in Yuanling City, Long Chen had seen the steel puppets. They were simple and weak, but the puppet in front of him now was terrifying. There were various blood-red runes on the war horse, and every time it moved, the runes swirled and consumed overlord spiritual Qi to transform it into energy. The blood-red runes were complex, to the point that Long Chen couldn't memorize a single symbol even though he had been staring at it for a long time.

"Sis... Sister! He's the Underworld Soldier!"

Xiong Jun looked at the man dismounting from the horse in awe.

Long Chen looked at the so-called Underworld Soldier. He was a tall man wearing full-body armor. The armor was black and had inky green runes surfacing it from time to time. A strange force flowed in the armor.

Back in the Ancient Graveyard, Long Chen had seen Jin Ling using the Golden Emperor's Armor. The armor in front of him right now was similar, but because this was the special armor fashioned for the Underworld Soldiers specifically, its runes were very complicated. It was also very strong. Those wearing it would have their power greatly amplified!

"That's the Underworld Armor! It can increase your essence by three times!"

"He looks so cool!"

"If only I could touch the armor once!"

The youths from the barbaric tribe were clamoring and looking at the Underworld Soldier with awe.

The Underworld Soldier looked serious, and he had an air to him that warned others that he would kill without hesitation. When Long Chen saw the Underworld Soldier's eyes, he knew that the person had taken many, many lives. The aura he emitted was stronger than that of the man Liu Qing'er was holding onto.

The young man, the middle-aged man, and the Underworld Soldier walked into the inn. They ignored everyone as they spoke amongst themselves.

"Mayor, I will stay in this inn for now. There's no need to spread news about me around. You should know how strict our laws are. I will head back to Scarlet Sun Medium City once the auction for the Heavenly Fortune Pill has been completed."

The Underworld Soldier's voice was deep and magnetic. Those who heard him were attracted to how it sounded.

The middle-aged man he was talking to was none other than the mayor.

"I shall heed your words, Master Zhao, since you wish to stay here. I do understand that you have a lot of rules to obey. But if you need the Heavenly Fortune Pill, I can always tell the auction to give it to you directly," said the mayor.

He then looked at Liu Qing'er, who was currently holding the arm of his son. "Qing'er, go ask your father to give the Heavenly Fortune Pill to Master Zhao."

Liu Qing'er beamed. "Of course."

"No." The Underworld Soldier's expression was serious. "Since it's an auction, I will obey its rules and purchase it using Emperor Crystals. It's a Heavenly Fortune Pill, so it shouldn't cost too much. I don't want the others to gossip about it when I get back."

"I'm only passing here because of my duty, but I caught wind of the Heavenly Fortune Pill and wanted to see it. Thank you very much for your hospitality. If you don't mind, I would like to consider us brothers. You are the mayor, and I'm just a single Underworld Soldier. I fear that it's not appropriate for you to call me 'master.'"

The mayor laughed. "No, no. There's no need to worry. It's just an oversight on my part. We have no objections to you following the rules. But I fear that no one will bid on the Heavenly Fortune Pill after hearing that you are interested in it."

The Underworld Soldier laughed when he heard that.

Soon, the Underworld Soldier was given the best room under the arrangement of Scarlet Water City.

The woman called Liu Qing'er whispered to the son of the mayor. Soon, the burly youth turned to Long Chen, and killing intent spilled from him.

Here comes trouble. Long Chen knew that trouble had arrived.

As expected, the youth approached Long Chen when the mayor was escorting the Underworld Soldier up to the second floor.

"You dare bully Qian Canglong's woman? Do you want to die?"

The youth stood in front of Long Chen and glared at him.

Tip: You can use left, right keyboard keys to browse between chapters.

Chapter 887 - Barbaric Body

Chapter 887 - Barbaric Body

“Canglong, what are you doing?”

The mayor was just about to head upstairs, but then he lowered his head and looked in Long Chen’s direction. With his sharp senses, he knew that his son was about to cause trouble.

Long Chen sighed. The only people he was wary of were the mayor and the Underworld Soldier. He could’ve escaped on his own if they wanted to fight him, but now he had to protect Xiong Wan’er and the others. If he angered them, he would have no way of escaping safely if he had to bring along the youth of the Barbaric Bear Tribe.

Canglong explained profusely, “Father, that person was bold enough to bully Qing’er. I-”

“Idiot! Are you disturbing the peace of the Underworld Soldier just because of this? How can you call yourself his disciple if you act like this? Just toss them out!”

The mayor’s words left no room for objection.

He took one look at Long Chen and scoffed. “Also, he’s only at the Second Heavenly Martial Stage. How could he bully Qing’er? Are you stupid?”

“I understand.”

Canglong deflated like a ball after getting scolded, but when he turned around, he poured out his anger on Long Chen.

“Come outside with me, brat!” he said.

Long Chen crossed his arms and ignored Qian Canglong. He wasn’t an idiot, and now was not the time to get out. He had already come up with a plan.

Xiong Jun and the others hid behind Long Chen. They were now looking at him as their leader. Xiong Jun had completely abandoned all thoughts of becoming the Underworld Soldier’s disciple after seeing how the latter hadn’t even looked at him even though their lives were at stake.

Also, Qian Canglong clearly had the same objective as Xiong Jun. He wanted to become the Underworld Soldier’s disciple and would become an Underworld Soldier himself once he had enough power.

“Do you think you will be safe staying here? I will wait for you outside. I do not believe that you can stay here forever.”

Qian Canglong allowed Liu Qing'er to hold his arm before both of them turned and left.

“Wait.”

The Underworld Soldier looked past Long Chen and saw Xiong Jun. A strange thought flickered behind his eyes.

He immediately went down to the ground floor and stood in front of Xiong Jun. The Underworld Soldier looked menacing with his cold, glinting armor.

“I can't believe there's a youth with a Barbaric Body here in this small city. Little child, what is your name?”

“Barbaric Body?” Xiong Jun scratched his head in confusion, but since the person in front of him was the Underworld Soldier that he yearned to meet, he excitedly answered, “I am Xiong Jun!”

The Underworld Soldier stared at Xiong Jun for a bit longer and then broke out into a smile. “Xiong Jun, are you interested in becoming my disciple? My name is Zhao Kongming.”

“What?” Everyone, except for the mayor, was shocked. Qian Canglong was the most surprised because he had always wanted to become Zhao Kongming's disciple, but the man himself had not agreed verbally. To think that he would ask someone from a barbarian tribe to become his disciple!

“What's a Barbaric Body?”

Almost everyone was confused.

“The Barbaric Body is a type of body constitution that has a high chance of reaching the Divine Martial Realm. That is why I would like to have you as my disciple, in hopes that I can recommend you to join the Underworld Soldier in the future. Do you agree?”

“I ... I agree! Greetings, Master!”

Xiong Jun was so ecstatic that he felt like he was dreaming. He knelt down on the ground with pleasure. To think that his dream was finally coming true, and he even had a chance of reaching the Divine Martial Realm!

If he could become a Divine Martial Realm cultivator, he would be a legendary figure within this entire region.

“Good! From today onwards, you are a disciple of Zhao Kongming.”

Zhao Kongming helped Xiong Jun up before he looked at Qian Canglong. “Long’er, it seems you had some kind of disagreement with him before. Would you mind letting it go for my sake?”

Qian Canglong was clearly displeased, but he had no choice but to accept since his father was watching him. “Naturally. Now that Xiong Jun is your disciple, he is one of us too. How could I fight against my own family? But, Uncle Zhao, when will you accept me as your disciple?”

Qian Canglong could only ask like this in hopes that Zhao Kongming would take pity on him.

Zhao Kongming smiled. “Long’er, you have great potential. Also, Brother Qian is already teaching you, so I don’t want to butt in and point you down the wrong path. When you are strong enough one day, you can come find me and I will give you a recommendation letter to join the Underworld Soldiers.”

Qian Canglong wanted to become Zhao Kongming’s disciple so that he could join the Underworld Soldiers one day. Zhao Kongming’s recommendation was all that he needed. He had completely forgotten about becoming Zhao Kongming’s disciple after he heard that proposal.

Everything had been resolved perfectly today, except for Liu Qing’er’s situation. She was glaring daggers at Long Chen as she left. It appeared that she had other plans ...

Xiong Jun had achieved his dream of becoming Zhao Kongming’s disciple. After the mayor left, Zhao Kongming brought Xiong Jun into his room. Not only had the Barbaric Bear Tribe avoided danger today, they had also gotten something amazing. The youths were happy, and even Xiong Wan’er drank a lot, to the point that her face was red.

Long Chen spent some time with them before he returned to his room.

Is Zhao Kongming a good person?

Long Chen had a feeling that something was off. Zhao Kongming had been so cold initially; he only smiled and warmed up after seeing Xiong Jun’s Barbaric Body.

But Long Chen couldn’t figure out what Zhao Kongming’s true goal was. He hoped that he was actually a decent individual.

“That puppet horse ... And also the Heavenly Fortune Pill ... What are those?”

Someone suddenly knocked on his door.

“Enter.”

The door creaked open, and in walked a blushing Xiong Wan'er. It was already late at night.

Under the soft light of the moon, her wheat-colored skin, tall body, long legs, and bewitching eyes were extremely deadly for men.

“Big Brother Long Chen, am I interrupting your cultivation?”

Even though she had drunk some wine, she was coherent enough to be careful.

“No. Is something wrong?”

“Hehe. It's nothing much. I just got a letter from the Mech Bird. The people from my tribe want me to bring everyone back tomorrow, so I came to say goodbye.”

Xiong Wan'er looked at Long Chen with longing eyes.

“So Xiong Jun will follow Zhao Kongming?”

Xiong Wan'er nodded. “That is Xiong Jun's blessing. I hope that he can achieve something and bring honor to our tribe.”

“Wait, did you say something about a Mech Bird?” Long Chen recalled Zhao Kongming's black warhorse.

“Mech Bird? Don't you know them? Those are birds made by Mech Spirits, which are a special category of Scribes. Mech Birds fly extremely fast thanks to the special runes inscribed on them. They can also absorb the Royal Qi in the air and turn it into energy. There are many different types of Mech Birds, and their speed differs based on their model. They are very useful.”

Xiong Wan'er looked at Long Chen as if he was the isolated tribesman instead for not knowing something so basic.

“Scribe? Mech Priests? Wan'er, can you tell me more?”

Long Chen trusted her more than the others. The others would've been suspicious of him if he asked them those questions, but because Xiong Wan'er trusted him blindly, the risk of someone suspecting him would be lower.

Xiong Wan'er was happy to be useful to him. “In the Three Royal Territory, there are types of cultivators like Armament Warriors, regular warriors, and the obsolete Beast Warriors. There are also numerous positions and jobs.

“Some of them are non-combat professions, with two of them being very special: the Scribes and the Alchemists. Scribes learn different runes and inscribe them onto Divine Weapons, Magical Artifacts, or other special materials to bring out special properties. They can also produce talismans for various uses. Some of the talismans they make boast incredible offensive properties.”

Long Chen knew about talismans. Even people in the Ten Thousand Nations Territory used those. He had once been targeted by a Firestorm Talisman.

“Then there is a special branch of Scribes called Tech Priests. They can inscribe peculiar runes onto special materials to produce different kinds of Mechs. The Mech Bird is one of them.

“Jun’er’s Master, who’s an Underworld Soldier, rode one today. You saw the Underworld Warhorse, right? It was made by a high-grade Tech Priest. It’s extremely fast and doesn’t get tired. More importantly, it’s also very strong! Every Underworld Soldier has one.”

Long Chen could understand that too. People in the Ten Thousand Nations Territory often used demonic beasts as transport since a human’s essence was limited. Traveling over a long distance would exhaust the cultivator’s essence completely. They would be vulnerable if they found themselves in a situation where they needed to fight during a long journey.

Here in the Three Royal Territories, because of the demon race and the Desolate Royal Territory, it was almost unheard of for people to use demonic beasts as transport. That was why the Tech Priests were born.

Xiong Wan’er continued, “It’s said that some legendary Tech Priests can inscribe runes that grant Divine Weapons the power of a cultivator at the Divine Martial Realm. Those legendary Tech Priests have to be at the Divine Martial Realm themselves, so there aren’t any in Scarlet Water City.”

Tip: You can use left, right keyboard keys to browse between chapters.

Chapter 888 - Underworld Warhorse

Chapter 888 - Underworld Warhorse

Both Scribes and Tech Priests would've been considered rare and almost useless professions in the Ten Thousand Nations Territory, but here, they were controlled and had structure.

Long Chen did know a little about Alchemists as Situ Yi was one. Alchemists could combine spiritual herbs, refine them with core fire, and then follow a recipe to make various pills. Some of the pills required only common ingredients but granted the user incredible power.

"Alchemists are almost as popular as Tech Priests. In Scarlet Water City alone, there are dozens of Alchemists and Scribes. The stronger ones are treated as guests by the mayor. He gives them a lot of Emperor Crystals every year for them to stay here. However, the Heavenly Fortune Pill is not something they could make here. Rumor has it that the Scarlet Water Association obtained it from someone who was unaware of its true value."

Long Chen's eyes were glimmering with curiosity because he wanted to know what the Heavenly Fortune Pill did when even Zhao Kongming was interested in it.

"Wan'er, what is a Heavenly Fortune Pill?"

"The Heavenly Fortune Pill is a medicine that's extremely hard to manufacture. Only Alchemists at the Ninth Heavenly Martial Stage can make it, and even then, they can only produce lower-quality ones.

"The lower-quality ones contain a little bit of the Alchemist's understanding of the Heavenly Martial Realm. Someone at the Ninth Earthly Martial Stage can advance into the Heavenly Martial Realm with ease after consuming it, and someone at the First Heavenly Martial Stage can reach the Second Heavenly Martial Stage. Beyond that, those at the Third Heavenly Martial Stage would only find themselves understanding the Heavenly Martial Realm a bit more after eating it.

"I think Jun'er's master intends to give it to someone else. It might be valuable, but it's useless for us at this point."

Long Chen nodded. "Then how much is a single Heavenly Fortune Pill?"

"I... I'm not sure. Probably a few thousand Emperor Crystals? But no one would dare to bid against an Underworld Soldier. I'm certain that he will buy it for just a couple hundred Emperor Crystals."

Long Chen nodded.

It was late into the night by the time she finished her explanation. Even though she didn't want to leave, she had no choice. She needed to head back to her tribe tomorrow.

Long Chen reassured her. "I will send you back to your tribe tomorrow."

"Thank you, Big Brother Long Chen." Xiong Wan'er was touched.

Long Chen slowly sorted out the information in his mind after she left.

"A Heavenly Fortune Pill can save me a year's worth of cultivation time, but I only have Royal Crystals. Where can I find Emperor Crystals?"

Long Chen felt the pain of not having money.

Xiong Wan'er told him that the auction would be held in ten days. Where would he find a thousand Emperor Crystals within that time frame?

He needed to grow strong as fast as he possibly could. He had readied himself to purchase the Heavenly Fortune Pill after learning about it.

Zhao Kongming had already said that he would follow the rules of the auction. Since his intention was to give it to someone else, he would probably give up on it if the price exceeded his expectations. Long Chen would then outbid Zhao Kongming. The others dared not do it, but he did.

Also, Long Chen was never reluctant to spend a lot of money when it was needed.

I don't have much time. I need to reach the Divine Martial Realm and get to the Swordsoul Territory as soon as I can. I need to advance through the Heavenly Martial Realm as fast as possible.

Long Chen opened the window and stared at the starry night.

"Hold on. Little Cat, the six demons were only at the Category Nine Emperor-tier. How can they pass through the Fragmented Starfield?"

Maybe the demon race had their own way of traversing it without needing to be at the Divine Martial Realm!

In that case, Long Chen would have more time for himself.

He had sworn to Ling Xi that he would find her in ten years, and two years had passed. He didn't have enough time.

"Demons at the Category Nine Emperor-tier have incredibly strong physical bodies, so they are barely strong enough to pass through the Fragmented Starfield. The Divine Martial Realm is the minimum requirement for humans."

Little Cat's words made Long Chen sad.

“Don’t even think about doing it at the Ninth Heavenly Martial Stage. There are no shortcuts in this world. Also, if you go before you enter the Divine Martial Realm, you will only embarrass yourself in the Swordsoul Territory.”

“Little Cat, I never thought you would give me such good advice even though you look so flippant at times.”

Little Cat was right. Long Chen was trying to rush it too much.

“Scram. I have my own dignity. How dare you call me flippant!”

Little Cat's furry body slipped out of the Primordial Realm. Even though his voice was horrible, his body was still cute.

Suddenly, Long Chen noticed that the Dream Demon's body had undergone some changes.

He wasn't certain what it was, but something had indeed changed. The Dream Demon was no longer the same.

“Did you notice?” Little Cat chuckled with pleasure.

“That you’ve changed?”

“Hehe. Thanks to my hard work, I’ve finally changed this body into one that has potential. I shall show you!”

Little Cat disappeared like a popped bubble the moment he finished his sentence.

There was absolutely no trace of his aura at all.

Long Chen had to use Sight to finally see that Little Cat was still in front of him.

With a *whoosh*, Little Cat appeared again.

“How is it? Incredible, right? Why don’t you start worshipping me?”

Long Chen was confused. “What’s going on?”

“That is a special technique called the Hidden Turtle Aura. It allows me to mask my aura completely. I can then use the Dream Demon's innate technique to fool your eyes and make it seem like I'm invisible. That way, I am impossible to detect! Haha, with this modification, I can finally peep at the beautiful ladies taking a bath! Hahaha!”

“You lecherous cat ...” Long Chen smiled helplessly.

But Long Chen was happy because this meant that Little Cat could help him learn a lot of information. And if Little Cat encountered danger, Long Chen could summon him back immediately using the Primordial Dragon Talisman.

The Hidden Turtle Aura and the Dream Demon's illusion techniques could indeed be used synergistically.

"Also, there's bad news."

"What is it?" Long Chen was worried.

"After my modification, I can finally fight against stronger opponents with the Dream Demon's illusion techniques, but there's a price. From today onwards, I need to consume a lot of spiritual herbs. Pills would be best, but I can accept Emperor Crystals at worst. I don't mind as long as I can eat it."

"You little rascal. You are just adding more work for me." Long Chen punched Little Cat playfully.

Long Chen was extremely poor right now, and Little Cat was just adding an extra financial burden for him.

Little Cat suddenly said something strange. "Hey! We were just talking about spiritual herbs and Emperor Crystals. To think that someone is actually giving them to us for free."

He then disappeared into the Primordial Realm. Long Chen's eyes lit up because he saw a palm-sized bird flying towards him from outside the window.

Long Chen grabbed the bird to find that it was a Mech Bird. There were simple runes inscribed on it, and they glowed hazily under the moonlight.

In the middle of the Mech Bird's chest was a warm ball of energy. Long Chen had a feeling that it was the energy source of the Mech Bird.

He crushed it into dust and let it completely disperse in the wind.

In Long Chen's hand was a small piece of paper. *Come out of Scarlet Water City alone if you dare. Five hundred meters away from the city gates.*

It was clearly Liu Qing'er calling out Long Chen.

After Zhao Kongming's request to not trouble Long Chen and the others, Liu Qing'er did not continue harassing them in public. But deep in her heart, she still resented Long Chen. She couldn't believe that Long Chen would dare to point a spear at her neck!

“Liu Qing’er is from the Scarlet Water Association. I think they are the ones auctioning off the Heavenly Fortune Pill and organizing the auction. She must have a lot of money on her.”

That was why Little Cat had said that someone was sending them money late at night.

“Does Liu Qing’er really think that I would go out there?”

He would’ve ignored her if it wasn’t for the Heavenly Fortune Pill. She was probably just testing him and never thought that Long Chen would really go out.

In reality, after failing to kill Long Chen, Liu Qing’er had started to go mad. Qian Canglong chased her all the way out of Scarlet Water City. After calming her down and reassuring her, he finally appeased her anger.

They then messed around in the wilderness outside before Liu Qing’er remembered Long Chen again. She was still resentful and thought of using this method to try and lure him out.

“He’s not an idiot. Will he really come out here?” Qian Canglong was uncertain.

Liu Qing’er said, “You didn’t fight him, so you don’t know. He’s very arrogant. He was wary of your father and Zhao Kongming during the day, so he didn’t fight you. There’s no one here at night, so he will come here after I taunt him with the letter. Also, he doesn’t know that you are here!”

Tip: You can use left, right keyboard keys to browse between chapters.

“You’re right. If he knew that I was here, he wouldn’t dare to come! Qing’er, don’t you think so?” As he spoke, Qian Canglong started to massage her chest.

Liu Qing’er swatted his muscular arm away and said, “Didn’t I satisfy you enough just now? Keep your hands to yourself, or I’m chopping them off.”

He laughed drily and moved his hands away obediently.

This bitch. She was hotter than anyone else just a minute ago, but now she’s pretending to be some pure virgin in front of me. Qian Cang long cursed her in his heart.

He was the son of Scarlet Water City’s mayor. There were many gentle and beautiful girls he could get together with in the city. If it was not for his father’s desire to improve the ties between him and the Scarlet Water Association, he wouldn’t be here dealing with this bitch’s terrible temper.

"It's getting late. If that brat isn't here yet, I don't think he's coming," he said as he patted his bottom after standing up from the blue grass.

"I have overestimated him. No, he dared to hurt me, so I must find a way to kill him. Qian Canglong, I forbid you from touching me before he dies!" Liu Qing'er glared.

"Alright, alright. I'll think of a way to kill him tomorrow," said Qian Canglong in a resigned manner. Although Liu Qing'er had a bad temper, she had an amazing body. To him, not being able to touch her was worse than being killed.

Both of them were prepared to return to Scarlet Water City, but then they heard rhythmic footsteps in the dark. They looked at each other, then peered ahead in excitement. A teenager covered in red scales appeared. With a sharp, half-gold, half-black spear in hand, he emerged from the darkness.

"Who is that?!" Qian Canglong had never seen Long Chen post-Dragon Soul Transformation.

"That's him! Hurry up and kill him! You're at the Sixth Heavenly Martial Stage, so if you don't kill him in ten breaths, don't even bother coming back!" When she saw that it was Long Chen, Liu Qing'er's eyes gleamed with bloodthirst.

She hated the way Long Chen looked at her without any emotion at all.

Damn! Sixth Heavenly Martial Stage! I need to fight with all I have. Long Chen had expected Qian Canglong to be with her, but someone at the Sixth Heavenly Martial Stage was quite strong ...

When they saw Long Chen, Liu Qing'er and Qian Canglong's eyes flashed coldly.

"Attack!" Liu Qing'er did not waste any time.

"Mhm!" Qian Canglong clenched his fists, and his long, blue robes ripped because his muscles suddenly swelled. Power surged through his body, and a destructive aura swept toward Long Chen.

Boom! Boom! Boom!

Loud booms sounded as Qian Canglong stepped on the ground with his huge feet. The unimaginably hard ground trembled, showing how strong he was.

Qian Canglong was a cultivator who specialized in physical strength.

Long Chen did not make a sound. He sprinted forward like a ray of blood-red light, instantly arriving in front of Qian Canglong with the Three Thousand Star Clusters in hand.

He's so fast!

Qian Canglong was privately shocked.

Long Chen was even using the Five Emperor Palm. The boost it provided increased his combat abilities to the Fifth Earthly Martial Stage. Previously, he would have had to use the second stage of Blood Sacrifice in order to achieve this!

“Tyrannosaurus Punch!”

Speed was not like strength—it could determine the outcome of a duel. Qian Canglong roared furiously, and dragon patterns appeared all over his body, finally merging on his fist. He punched with his golden fist, and a violent dragon image shot out. Its large and menacing head shot at Long Chen!

The dragon image had evolved from the energy of his punch!

The Tyrannosaurus was not a dragon. Like the Jiao Dragon, it was a descendant of the ancient dragons and therefore had some dragon features.

The earth-shaking punch erupted with the essence of a Sixth Heavenly Martial Stage cultivator. It was indeed able to suppress Long Chen, as the Tyrannosaurus Punch was an advanced Emperor-tier combat technique!

“Big Dipper Step!” At the most critical moment, Long Chen took a huge risk by using the Big Dipper Step. The illusory star plates appeared beneath his feet, and he flickered out of the way. It was a treacherous situation as he dodged the immense Tyrannosaurus Punch by just a few centimeters, then charged at Qian Canglong!

“You’re even bold enough to engage in melee combat with me? You’re looking for death!”

Qian Canglong had been tortured by Liu Qing’er for a long time because of Long Chen, so he had privately been furious for a long time. They were in an empty place in the middle of the night, so this was a great chance to kill him.

He punched at Long Chen again.

Whoosh! Long Chen turned into a shadow and ran around Qian Canglong in a semicircle, arriving behind him.

Qian Canglong was not as fast as Long Chen because he was physically large.

“Are you trying to get behind me by relying on your speed?” Qian Canglong chuckled coldly and turned his head, then chased after Long Chen!

However, he saw something that startled him when he turned around. Long Chen had completely abandoned him. Like a red gust of wind, he charged at Liu Qing'er, who was watching the fight!

She wasn't far, so he arrived instantly.

"You think you can target me? Do you think I'm weak?" Liu Qing'er clenched her teeth and was about to attack. Long Chen released his Blood Devouring Domain, enveloping her.

"What's this?!" cried Liu Qing'er. Her essence was suppressed and her vision was obstructed in the red space. Long Chen's shining spear tip looked like a star that was quickly approaching her!

Both the Blood Devouring Domain and his actual domain were suppressing her.

"No! Qian Canglong, save me!" Liu Qing'er screamed in agony. Long Chen's face had turned unbelievably cold in front of her, and he radiated a cold killing intent.

"What is that?" She saw a faint image of a blood-red dragon behind him. It was an immense creature, as if it ruled over all other beings. She had only taken a glance, but she was already trembling.

Liu Qing'er was filled with endless regret for provoking Long Chen.

But it was too late.

"Three Thousand Star Clusters Spear Manual!"

Countless starlight aggregated into one dot at the tip of the spear, and it pierced through Liu Qing'er's neck.

Bright, red blood flowed from the tip of the Three Thousand Star Clusters, then to the ground.

Liu Qing'er was not dead yet, but her consciousness was fading quickly. Her eyes widened, looking at the youth holding the spear that had pierced through her body. The red-scaled teenager was like a devil from hell! His gaze was terrifying!

Long Chen pulled out the Three Thousand Star Clusters and flung it. All the blood droplets were shaken off.

At the same time, he turned around and did not even glance at Liu Qing'er, instead facing the furious Qian Canglong.

“Long ... Long Chen ...” Liu Qing’er clutched her neck. Blood kept pouring out, dyeing her neck and hands red.

The final thing she saw was the terrifying silhouette of the teenager’s back.

Then she collapsed weakly.

Liu Qing’er had been killed merely moments after Long Chen’s arrival. Everything had happened far too quickly.

Long Chen’s decisiveness in killing enraged Qian Canglong.

He had just witnessed his woman dying in Long Chen’s hands. Although he did not have strong feelings for her, she was still his woman! And who was Qian Canglong? He was the mayor’s son!

His heavy footsteps stopped. He breathed heavily like a large beast and exhaled white mist. Looking at the woman who had collapsed at Long Chen’s feet, he clenched his fists, and a thick, green vein popped from his skin.

“I apologize, but you were too slow. You couldn’t even protect a woman. I think you should just kill yourself. My spear is not used to killing soft men.” Long Chen held his Three Thousand Star Clusters diagonally. This was the first time he had spoken, his tone was completely nonchalant despite having just killed Liu Qing’er.

It was as if he had done something insignificant.

Boom!

Qian Canglong was enraged. He roared, then charged at Long Chen. His eyes had turned completely blood-red.

“Domain!”

His Sixth Heavenly Martial Stage domain expanded!

A faintly visible domain appeared in a twenty-meter radius around Qian Canglong. While he charged, the domain surrounded Long Chen. An all-encompassing force as heavy as a mountain pressed on Long Chen.

Crack!

Long Chen had not stabilized his knees, so his legs bent downwards. If not for his stubbornness, he would have knelt on the ground.

“Bastard! Die!” Qian Canglong roared as he charged at Long Chen while controlling his domain. With his Sixth Heavenly Martial Stage domain, he was confident that he could trap Long Chen.

He had already restricted Long Chen’s movements, so his Tyrannosaurus Punch would surely squash him to a pulp!

While he was charging ahead, Long Chen resisted the immense domain and stood up. All the muscles in his body were taught, and there was a flash of blood-red light in his eyes!

Long Chen’s Three Thousand Star Clusters disappeared from his hands, replaced by a pair of black gloves. Then his Yin Yang Sword Soul separated into golden and black sections, each entering one glove. One of the black gloves started radiating an ice-cold light, while the other shone with hot, golden light. One was filled with hot Yang energy, the other with cold Yin energy.

“I’ll test my Emperor Vanquishers on you!”

Golden and black light condensed in his palms!

Tip: You can use left, right keyboard keys to browse between chapters.

The Emperor Vanquishers were Divine-tier weapons, and Long Chen could only communicate with them on a surface level through his Yin Yang Sword Soul. Therefore, he could only control a portion of the energy in the Emperor Vanquishers.

The power of this weapon did not belong to any element. It was only after the transformation process by his Yin Yang Sword Soul that they became hot and cold.

“Are those punching gloves? They’re of a high level too ...”

Qian Canglong’s eyes shone with greed when he saw the gloves.

Although he was not a Sword Warrior, he would be able to utilize a portion of their strength. Just based on their exterior, he knew that they were no simple gloves. However, he never would have thought that the gloves were Divine-tier.

Even in Scarlet Water City, Divine-tier weapons were very rare. His father, the mayor, did not have a Divine-tier weapon either.

However, it was not known if Zhao Kongming had one. It was easier for Underworld Soldiers to obtain Divine-tier items.

Qian Canglong's attention turned from Liu Qing'er's death to Long Chen's gloves.

His domain suppressed Long Chen greatly!

"Tyrannosaurus Punch!"

The advanced Emperor-tier combat technique was his best technique. He used it once again, along with his Sixth Heavenly Martial Stage domain. An earth-shaking Tyrannosaurus image shot towards Long Chen!

"Little Cat, it's your turn."

Long Chen clenched his fists. Although it was very hard for him to move in the domain, his lips were still curled into a small smile.

"Let me say this first! I want half of his Emperor Crystals—no, wait, three-quarters!" said Little Cat hurriedly. A fuzzy head popped out of Long Chen's chest. The Dream Demon's eyes shone with a strange light. After Little Cat's modifications, the Dream Demon's hallucinatory magic had reached a mature stage.

Whoosh ...

Confusing Qian Canglong's Martial Soul and making him think that Long Chen had quickly fled in another direction was an easy task for Little Cat!

How is that possible?! He managed to run away despite being trapped by my domain! Qian Canglong gasped. At this critical moment, he quickly changed the direction of his Tyrannosaurus Punch towards the Long Chen illusion that Little Cat had created!

Boom!

The Tyrannosaurus Punch brushed past Long Chen!

"That's not right!"

Qian Canglong suddenly realized that Long Chen had not changed his location in the domain. He was still in the same spot—Qian Canglong had made a mistake.

"What satanic technique was that?!" cursed Qian Canglong. His Tyrannosaurus Punch had hit something else, and it did not hurt Long Chen. He backed away in panic!

This was a rare chance for Long Chen, so how could he let him go?

Just as the Tyrannosaurus Punch shot off in the wrong direction, Long Chen turned into a ray of blood-red light within Qian Canglong's domain and shot toward him!

"You think you can engage in melee-" Qian Canglong couldn't finish his sentence, because Long Chen threw a lightning-fast punch at him. The golden punch contained so much heat that it was like a volcano was flying at him!

Qian Canglong quickly held up both hands to block.

Slam!

The fierce flames left black burn marks on his arms, and the immense force made Qian Canglong cry out in pain as he stumbled backward. Long Chen followed him closely like his own shadow and landed a punch on his arm once more. He had started with a right jab, so he followed it up with his left hand. The chilling, corrosive Qi collided with the wound on Qian Canglong's arm.

"How could this be?!" Qian Canglong was completely stunned. He shook his head and checked, but the person before him was still Long Chen.

But it was too late.

Long Chen's punch had broken through his defenses and landed on his head. There was a crack, and his skull shattered. Under the immense force of the Emperor Vanquishers, blood flowed out of his eyes, ears, mouth, and nose.

"Die!"

Long Chen reached out with his left hand like a flying dragon and grabbed Qian Canglong's neck. With a crack, his neck was bent at an extreme angle.

"Long Chen ..."

Qian Canglong's eyes widened as he glared at Long Chen, then he died.

"Damn it, I'm exhausted! I spent all my energy casting my spell twice on this guy. Don't take risks like that again. You're not strong enough to beat a Sixth Heavenly Martial Stage cultivator yet," said Little Cat, who was now lying in the Primordial Realm. Although he was tired, he still spoke smugly.

Indeed, without Little Cat, Long Chen would be in danger.

After killing these people, it was best to flee the scene quickly. Long Chen found both their storage rings and took all the items they carried. Then he burned their bodies and left.

He tidied up the scene so that it looked like nothing had happened.

He had snuck out of the city, so no one had spotted him. Similarly, he snuck back in. No one noticed.

In public, I am only a Second Heavenly Martial Stage cultivator. If those two disappear for a few days, people will merely assume that they've gone out to have fun. Who would suspect me? This is an airtight plan.

After returning to the inn, Long Chen inspected his war spoils excitedly.

"I can't believe this brat carried his clan's specialty technique, the Tyrannosaurus Punch, around with him. I guess he hadn't mastered it completely yet and was still studying it."

Out of all the things he had taken, the advanced Emperor-tier Tyrannosaurus Punch was the most attention-grabbing. That was Scarlet Water City's mayor's specialty technique, yet it was with Long Chen.

Long Chen already had two advanced Emperor-tier combat techniques, but the Tyrannosaurus Punch was more suited to be used with the Emperor Vanquishers than the Five Seals Combination.

If he had time, it would be good to practice the Tyrannosaurus Punch.

After he put it away, Long Chen counted the Emperor Crystals. After arriving in the Three Royal Territories, he realized that currencies like the Emperor Crystals were important. Not only did he need the power contained in them to advance his cultivation, he also needed them to purchase items. At the same time, Little Cat needed them to sustain his power.

He did not know what the Dream Demon had become after Little Cat had modified it.

After counting, he discovered that he had more than six thousand Emperor Crystals.

Qian Canglong had more than two thousand Emperor Crystals. That's a normal amount. As for Liu Qing'er, although her cultivation level was not as high, she had more than four thousand. Indeed, the people of the Scarlet Water Association are rich.

He put the Emperor Crystals in the Primordial Realm, and Little Cat pounced on them as if they were precious treasures. Long Chen still wanted to use them as money to buy the Heavenly Fortune Pill, so he only took some out for Little Cat to attempt to absorb essence from them. The brat was still a young Dream Demon, so the number of Emperor Crystals he needed was still within an acceptable range to Long Chen.

The other belongings were not important to Long Chen. He had the Five Emperors' treasure, so they had no value to him.

There are still ten days left. These six thousand Emperor Crystals should be enough for me to bid for the Heavenly Fortune Pill at the auction. I'll be able to see Zhao Kongming's true character then. Will he beat me in the auction using Emperor Crystals, or will he suppress his desire for it? After that, will he murder me in secret after I get the pill, or choose to give up on it?

Long Chen was unfamiliar with this person, so he could not make any assumptions.

If they discover that Qian Canglong and Liu Qing'er are dead, there will be a huge commotion in this city. I initially came with Wan'er and the others, so when Wan'er leaves tomorrow, I'll leave with her. I'll return to Scarlet Water City during the auction, although I'll need to hide my identity then.

The stronger Long Chen became, the better he could hide his true strength.

When he first arrived at the Divine Martial Empire, he had used the dragon's divine techniques several times. That allowed the Scarlet Emperor's Divine Martial Soul to discover that he was a legendary Dragon Warrior. Here, he needed to use them carefully, as it was not wise to reveal his Dragon Warrior identity to Divine Martial Realm experts.

Dragon Warriors held great significance, so a weakling like Long Chen would surely be dissected and studied.

After making his decision, Long Chen skimmed through the manual for the Tyrannosaurus Punch and memorized the profound concepts of the technique. Thanks to the experience he had accumulated by studying other advanced Emperor-tier techniques, the Tyrannosaurus Punch was not too difficult to him.

It would be dawn soon. There was too much killing in the wilderness at night, so Xiong Wan'er did not dare travel in the dark. Even during the day, due to the previous incident and the fact that Long Chen and Xiong Jun were not with her, they were still afraid.

When they gathered outside, Long Chen arrived with his hands behind his back. They all thought he had come to bid them farewell, but to their surprise, he said, "The journey isn't safe. Let me escort you."

"Really?" Xiong Wan'er was overjoyed. She had thought about asking but was too embarrassed to, as she did not want to trouble Long Chen.

"Mhm. Let's go," Long Chen said with a smile.

The youths of the Barbaric Bear Tribe were ecstatic. Xiong Jun descended the steps noisily, then looked at Long Chen and asked, "Brother Long Chen, are you going to escort my sister back?"

"Yes. What's your plan?" Long Chen asked.

"My master is leaving in ten days. I'm going to follow him to Scarlet Sun Medium City. That's a city a hundred times larger than Scarlet Water City. In the future, I must work hard and do my best to join the Underworld Soldiers, and make the Barbaric Bear Tribe proud," Xiong Jun said emotionally.

Tip: You can use left, right keyboard keys to browse between chapters.

"That's very good."

Long Chen smiled as he looked at the passionate teenager. It was as if he had met his younger self.

"Brother Long Chen, it'd be great if you could stay with the Barbaric Bear Tribe and protect my older sister forever," Xiong Jun said teasingly. When he saw that Long Chen wanted to escort Xiong Wan'er back, he thought Long Chen had fallen for her.

"Yeah. There's no expert in the Barbaric Bear Tribe fit for Sister Wan'er."

"I think you are made for each other!"

The others cried out in agreement.

"Hey, don't utter such nonsense. Brother Long Chen is only escorting us back out of the kindness of his heart. If you guys continue to be like this and upset him, I'm not talking to you again," scolded Xiong Wan'er with embarrassment.

When they saw that she was upset, they stopped talking, though they whispered among themselves and giggled.

After bidding Xiong Jun goodbye, Long Chen and the others left the city. They did not face any obstructions, and they headed in the direction of the Barbaric Bear Tribe. Along the way, he either chatted with Xiong Wan'er or cultivated, and time passed quickly.

They passed through the quiet but deadly forest and would soon arrive at the tribe. When they could see the tribe from far, Long Chen stopped and said, "I'll only be escorting you to this point. Go back on your own. Goodbyes are inevitable, no matter how long the journey. Farewell!"

“Brother Long Chen, aren’t you going to the tribe to play with us for a little while?” Xiong Wan’er said, a little crestfallen.

“It’s fine.”

Long Chen waved at her and smiled. With a quick tap of his foot, he quietly disappeared into the forest.

“Wow. Sister Wan’er, why didn’t he stay behind?” asked the teenagers who swarmed next to Xiong Wan’er with curiosity. Xiong Wan’er was a very beautiful girl, and she was a goddess to many people in the tribe.

“I don’t know. It feels like he holds many secrets. Let’s go back. Long Chen and us aren’t meant to be on the same path,” said Xiong Wan’er with a smile. She treated this with an open mind.

After escorting them safely to their destination, there were eight days left until the start of the auction. Long Chen planned to only return during the last few days, so he started cultivating the Heavenly Martial Fist Manual and the other techniques. There was just too much he had to study.

The Emperor’s Manual is an elementary Divine-tier combat technique. The first punch is known as the King’s Arrival! Right now, my combat abilities are at the Fifth Heavenly Martial Stage at maximum. However, thanks to the triple-layered boost offered by the Dragon Soul Transformation, the Five Emperor Palm, and the Yin-Yang Sword Soul, my essence is still only at the Fourth Heavenly Martial Stage. This is insufficient to support the King’s Arrival. I likely need to get the Heavenly Fortune Pill to cultivate this technique.

In spite of this, Long Chen studied the King’s Arrival thoroughly. He just needed to advance to the Third Heavenly Martial Stage. Then he could start to use the Emperor Vanquishers and the Emperor’s Manual.

The Emperor Vanquishers live up to their rank as Divine-tier weapons. When I put them on, I can already beat a Sixth Heavenly Martial Stage cultivator like Qian Canglong using a simple punching technique.

Long Chen looked at the gloves approvingly.

He spent the next few days in cultivation.

When only two days were left until the auction, Long Chen started to head towards Scarlet Water City. However, he covered his head with a cloak to hide his identity this time.

He entered the city by climbing over the walls and used the Soul Swallowing Gaze to avoid being seen. He was able to directly head to the Scarlet Water Association's location.

Due to the auction, the entrance of the association was bustling with people. Many people who participated in the auction did not want to announce their identities, seeing as they did not want people to know of their wealth. Therefore, many were dressed like Long Chen. Many people wearing cloaks entered the Scarlet Water Association directly.

Long Chen took several steps forward calmly and blended into the crowd. Identity verification was not necessary to enter, but they had to show a certain amount of money to prove that they had purchasing power. The Scarlet Water Association had set the minimum at a hundred Emperor Crystals, so Long Chen casually displayed it to them, then he followed the crowd to enter the auction hall under the association's warm welcome.

The auction hall was vast. Thanks to the nourishment of Royal Qi, the stones and bricks were unbelievably hard. It was very difficult to build a structure as large as this one.

To prevent conflict between guests, every guest had their own private cubicle. Long Chen was assigned one, but when he was about to enter, everyone in the hall directed their gazes to the same spot. Two of the highest-ranked people in Scarlet Water City were at the entrance. One was the mayor, while the other was the Underworld Soldier, Zhao Kongming!

Zhao Kongming had a wide smile on his face, but the mayor was in a gloomy mood. Under the warm welcome of the association, both of them were directed to the most luxurious cubicle. A man in luxurious clothing with shiny hair walked up to them. He was not strong, but several muscular men stood next to him. They were likely his bodyguards.

"Chairman, any news of your daughter?" asked the mayor when he saw the shiny-haired middle-aged man.

That middle-aged man, who was Chairman Liu Guang of the Scarlet Water Association, shook his head in a resigned manner and said, "I have no idea where that brat Qing'er went. She didn't even tell me beforehand. Could Qian Canglong have kidnapped her? Why isn't there any news?"

"No way. She's going to be the wife of my son. Why would my son need to kidnap her? That boy is getting rebellious. How could he go out gallivanting without telling us beforehand? And he didn't even send a message! When he gets back, I'm going to whip him!" raged the mayor.

"Say, do you think something bad has happened to them?" asked Chairman Liu Guang worriedly.

"It's not productive for the two of you to discuss this here. After the auction ends, send more people to search for them in the area," Zhao Kongming said. This was none of his business, so he was very calm.

"I hope they are fine. If anyone dares to touch my son within fifty kilometers of the city, hehe ..." There was a cold flash in the mayor's eyes.

After Long Chen heard them, he laughed. They would never figure out that the culprit who killed their children was actually at the auction.

That's strange. Didn't Zhao Kongming really like Xiong Jun? This is such a grand event, so why didn't he bring Xiong Jun here to widen his horizons?

This thought suddenly popped into Long Chen's mind.

"Hey, brat. I think there's something wrong with Zhao Kongming." Little Cat's fuzzy head popped out of the Primordial Realm.

"What is it?" Long Chen asked, surprised.

"I feel like he has some of that kid Xiong Jun's aura on him, or more specifically, it's the Barbaric Body's aura. He couldn't have done something to Xiong Jun, could he?"

"Huh?" Long Chen's heart dropped.

Previously, he had not been able to determine if Zhao Kongming was a good or bad person. Thinking back, the way Zhao Kongming recruited Xiong Jun as his disciple was indeed a little too hasty. Was there really something suspicious going on?

If something happened, it would have happened a long time ago while Long Chen was gone.

Long Chen's gaze darkened. Watching Zhao Kongming and the others disappear into the darkness, he clenched his jaw and whispered, "If anything has happened to Xiong Jun, I'm not letting you go for this."

Long Chen liked people who had a dream and were willing to chase after it. Xiong Jun was one of them. Although he was forty, he was still a younger brother to Long Chen.

Very soon, with the support of the Scarlet Water Association, the auction started, and Long Chen quietened his mind. It was just a bad feeling he had about Xiong Jun. Since he was here, he needed to obtain the Heavenly Fortune Pill.

All the auctioned items were displayed in front of everyone. If he could not get the Heavenly Fortune Pill, he was ready to snatch it away. They probably wouldn't be able

to catch him if he used Blood Warp, since Zhao Kongming and the mayor were not on Tian Kun's level.

The higher the cultivation level, the more superior the demon race's overall characteristics were when compared to humans of the same level. If it were not for the fact that humans had all sorts of combat techniques and divine weapons, humans of the same cultivation level would be no match for the demon race. The demons were naturally gifted with powerful bodies after all.

The Heavenly Fortune Pill was a lower-grade pill only effective for First and Second Heavenly Martial Stage cultivators. Despite that, its price far surpassed the average elementary Emperor-tier item. That was why the Heavenly Fortune Pill was seen as the main draw of this auction.

Long Chen had many treasures on him, so he was not interested in the items that were for sale. There were hundreds of people in the hall, so the dozens of items were all auctioned off in the end. Very soon, the final Heavenly Fortune Pill was brought out. It was placed in a white box forged from Emperor Crystals, and it was displayed to the audience.

The host held the pill up and sniffed its fragrance. With a relishing smile, he said, "Everyone, this item in my hand is the final item for today's auction, and also the item that everyone has been waiting for. It is the Heavenly Fortune Pill! I believe many people came here for it today, including the respected Lord Zhao from the Underworld Soldiers!"

As he spoke, he gave Zhao Kongming a respectful look.

This item had put the Scarlet Water Association in a difficult position too. Initially, they wanted to use the pill to make a lot of money, but Zhao Kongming had expressed interest in it. With him here, the price was not likely to go very high.

"The base price is five hundred Emperor Crystals, and every increment must be at least fifty Emperor Crystals. Let's begin!"

Nothing happened for a long time.

The average Fourth Heavenly Martial Stage cultivator only had a personal fortune of about three hundred Emperor Crystals.

Tip: You can use left, right keyboard keys to browse between chapters.

Elementary Emperor-tier divine weapons and pills there were usually priced around a hundred Emperor Crystals, but the Heavenly Fortune Pill started at a base price of five hundred. This showed how precious it was.

Pills that allowed cultivators to directly progress in cultivation were very precious. Even powerful alchemists had to spend great effort to refine a pill like this, and there was a very high chance of failure.

“It looks like everyone is letting me take it. Then I shall oblige. One thousand Emperor Crystals.” Zhao Kongming’s magnetic voice came from the darkness.

The people of the Scarlet Water Association sighed in relief. Zhao Kongming was not going to take advantage of them, seeing as how low-grade Heavenly Fortune Pills were worth approximately a thousand Emperor Crystals. If they sold it below this price, they would have suffered a loss. If they sold it at a price higher than this, it would not have been worth it to Zhao Kongming.

The Underworld Soldiers were paid in Emperor Crystals every month, and if they executed tasks successfully, they would receive a handsome amount on top of that. Therefore, Zhao Kongming had at least ten thousand Emperor Crystals on him, maybe even twenty or thirty thousand. Although it was painful to pay a thousand Emperor Crystals, it was worth it when he thought about how his romantic interest would be happy if he gave the pill to her younger brother.

When the other people heard the price of a thousand Emperor Crystals, they were even more unwilling to bid higher.

The host looked around and said loudly, “If there are no more bids, then the Heavenly Fortune Pill ...”

“I’ll pay one thousand and five hundred Emperor Crystals,” Long Chen said loudly. He controlled his voice to make himself sound older, like a middle-aged man.

Huh?

Many people were shocked to hear him.

“Who is he? Is he not going to give the Underworld Soldier face?”

“He must have a death wish to interfere with something Lord Zhao wants.”

“Whose voice is that? Why haven’t I heard of him before?”

Everyone looked at each other.

Zhao Kongming, Chairman Liu, and the mayor were sitting together. All three of them looked at each other. The mayor was already in a bad mood, so when a problem came up, he slammed the table and raged. "Who the hell is being so ignorant? Show yourself!"

His furious voice echoed across the auction hall. When everyone saw that the mayor was enraged, they trembled with fear.

"What is it? Isn't this an auction? The person who bids the highest price will get the item. Has the mayor not attended an auction before? Don't you know the most basic rule of an auction?" Long Chen said slowly.

He was sitting in a cubicle, so no one knew who he was.

However, based on his tone, they guessed that he was an expert. This person showed no respect for the mayor at all and dared to come alone. How could he do this without some strength to back him up? And he easily bid more than a thousand Emperor Crystals, so this person had to be at least at the Sixth Heavenly Martial Stage.

The mayor did not think too much of it because he was the highest-ranked person present.

While he was about to rage, Zhao Kongming held him back and said, "Brother Qian, he is right. The auction rules state that the person with the highest bid gets the item. This brother has a lot of money and has bid one thousand and five hundred Emperor Crystals. He must be very insistent on buying the Heavenly Fortune Pill. That is far above the usual price of the pill, so I do not intend to bid higher. Based on the rules, he should be the one to get the Heavenly Fortune Pill."

This didn't affect the mayor directly, but Zhao Kongming was his esteemed guest. How dare this person not give him face? He was furious.

"You'd better not let me find out who you are. I'll be watching you." The mayor chuckled coldly, then he sat down. He said to Zhao Kongming, "I apologize for the inconvenience, Brother Zhao."

"It doesn't matter. It's just a Heavenly Fortune Pill, and I only wanted to buy it in passing. Being able to make a good friend like you has made my trip to Scarlet Water City more than worth my while," said Zhao Kongming with a smile.

Zhao Kongming had no intention of bidding again, so the chairman of the Scarlet Water Association, Liu Guang, gave the host a look. The host nodded and struck the gavel. Very soon, someone took the Heavenly Fortune Pill to Long Chen. The person who delivered it was Chairman Liu.

Long Chen placed fifteen hundred Emperor Crystals on the table and pushed it to him.

Liu Guang could not see Long Chen's face. However, Long Chen had an unfamiliar aura, and it was clear that his cultivation level wasn't high; it was even lower than Liu Guang's.

"May I ask for your name, brother? Are you from Scarlet Water City?" Liu Guang asked cautiously when he passed the Heavenly Fortune Pill to Long Chen.

"Why do you need to know? Don't ask unnecessary questions." Long Chen took the pill, and after confirming that it was real, he walked past Liu Guang and exited the auction hall.

In a dark corner, Zhao Kongming said, "Brother Qian, please allow me to excuse myself for a moment. I'll see you again another day."

The mayor gave a look of understanding. He knew that Zhao Kongming was going to tail Long Chen. Long Chen had successfully upset him, and that was why Zhao Kongming had given up on bidding. He had decided to kill Long Chen and take the Heavenly Fortune Pill from him. And Long Chen seemed to be carrying a lot of money on him too.

With Zhao Kongming's abilities, he was able to follow Long Chen out of the auction hall in a flash. No one noticed him.

However, Long Chen knew that Zhao Kongming was not the kind to let this go easily.

Even though he was an Underworld Soldier, Long Chen did not feel pressured at all.

Xiong Jun may not be safe following a person like that around. Once I have absorbed the energy in the Heavenly Fortune Pill and break through to the Third Heavenly Martial Stage, I'll return to Scarlet Water City. Then I'll see if I can take Xiong Jun away.

Based on what had happened today, Zhao Kongming's character was not what he previously showed.

Long Chen strolled casually out of Scarlet Water City with Zhao Kongming sneaking behind him. When he was about five hundred meters away from the city, Long Chen entered a valley, then he suddenly used Blood Warp and shot off in a ray of blood-red light.

Due to the hills around the valley, Zhao Kongming did not see Long Chen leave. This was a good place to kill someone, so Zhao Kongming accelerated toward the valley. When he arrived, he was stunned because there was no one there.

"Where is he? Where did he go?"

He circled the place multiple times but was unable to find Long Chen.

“Damn it!” Zhao Kongming punched the ground, causing it to tremble.

“What a strange guy! If I had known, I would have attacked him earlier. A Heavenly Fortune Pill was wasted just like that!”

Zhao Kongming felt indescribable frustration.

“But ...” When he recalled a particular matter, he smiled.

“Even without the Heavenly Fortune Pill, I’ve been extremely lucky with this trip. Once I have completely consumed the mark on the Barbaric Body, I will basically have half a Barbaric Body. When that happens, it will be possible for me to enter the Divine Martial Realm! Then I shall be a general who can lead an army of thousands!”

Zhao Kongming chuckled, then he turned and shot off towards Scarlet Water City. He disappeared into the city in the blink of an eye.

Long Chen did not know about the final part of his muttering.

After leaving with the Heavenly Fortune Pill, Long Chen entered a dark patch of forest. The forest was boundless, and the Barbaric Bear Tribe only took up a small section of it. Long Chen found an empty area and decided to stop there.

This forest had treacherous terrain, and he finally found a tree large enough for several people to hold hands around its circumference. It was an old tree with all sorts of lichen growing on it. It was hollow in the middle, and the entrance was five meters tall.

This deep-blue tree was harder than the iron buildings in the Ancient Graveyard, so he was not worried about his safety.

It was very dark inside the tree, but when he took the Heavenly Fortune Pill out, it lit up the entire hole. The pill was pure white and emitted a faint, strange fragrance.

“An alchemist at the peak of the Heavenly Martial Realm refined this pill. The alchemist combined his understanding of the Martial Path with spiritual herbs, forming a pill that can advance a person’s cultivation by one level. How miraculous.”

Long Chen understood the magic of alchemists from this. Talisman masters were amazing too.

He studied the Heavenly Fortune Pill for a while, then he swallowed it. Using his essence, he quickly digested it.

Long Chen did not quite understand how the Heavenly Fortune Pill worked. After he cultivated the pill, a strange energy nourished his body. Something was even provoking

his mind so that after two days, he realized that his Martial Soul had reached the Third Heavenly Martial Stage.

He needed some time to absorb enough essence to truly reach the Third Heavenly Martial Stage though. He also had almost five thousand Emperor Crystals now, and they could help increase his essence quickly. Although it was not as quick as his Blood Transmutation technique, it was still an effective method.

After using up more than a hundred Emperor Crystals, Long Chen's essence reached the Third Heavenly Martial Stage.

With the boost provided by his Yin Yang Sword Soul, the Dragon Soul Transformation, and the Five Emperor Palm, Long Chen could now confidently defeat a Sixth Heavenly Martial Stage cultivator, and even fight a Seventh Heavenly Martial Stage opponent!

The Seventh Heavenly Martial Stage was the minimum requirement to enter the Underworld Soldiers. Zhao Kongming was likely at that stage.

However, to Long Chen, the largest benefit was that he could start using the Emperor's Manual. He had completed his study of the technique a long time ago; he only lacked the essence reserves to use it. After studying for a while in the tree, he finally stood up.

There's no hurry to head to the Underworld Estate. I should check on Xiong Jun first.

Tip: You can use left, right keyboard keys to browse between chapters.

After making his decision, Long Chen headed towards Scarlet Water City.

Initially, he wanted to go directly to the Underworld Estate. However, he was unsure about Xiong Jun's situation and decided to check on him.

Logically speaking, Zhao Kongming should have left because he had failed to get the Heavenly Fortune Pill. Long Chen was only returning to Scarlet Water City to confirm his thoughts.

If he was right, Zhao Kongming was likely the most common kind of Underworld Soldier, one at the Seventh Heavenly Martial Stage. Long Chen had now reached the Third Heavenly Martial Stage, so he could barely fight a Seventh Heavenly Martial Stage cultivator.

Of course, it was only barely.

If he wanted to defeat one, it would be quite difficult.

He snuck into Scarlet Water City once again. This time, he hurried directly to the inn where he had previously stayed. It was not a huge city, so it didn't take long to arrive. He remembered which room Zhao Kongming was in, and using his Soul Swallowing Gaze, he could easily look inside it. As expected, Zhao Kongming had not left yet, and Xiong Jun was there too.

Zhao Kongming had said that he would leave Scarlet Water City immediately after he got the Heavenly Fortune Pill, so why was he still here? Something was wrong. Also, Long Chen sensed that Xiong Jun's consciousness was withering, and he was barely breathing.

Long Chen was immediately on guard.

He's doing something to harm Xiong Jun. That guy's a bastard. Fuck ...

If that was the case, not only did Long Chen need to rescue Xiong Jun, he also had to kill Zhao Kongming. Zhao Kongming knew that Xiong Jun was from the Barbaric Bear Tribe, so if Long Chen did not kill him, he could bring disaster to the rest of the tribe as well.

At this point, Long Chen could not back out of this. There was some friendship between him and Xiong Jun after all. Therefore, Long Chen charged directly into the room, and in the blink of an eye, he blasted the door open and looked inside.

What he saw was similar to what Feng Xuan had done to Huangfu Qi. There was a wooden tub filled with green liquid. Various herbs floated in the liquid, and it emitted a pungent smell, though Zhao Kongming kept the scent isolated in this room.

There were two people in the wooden tub with their eyes closed, and they were Xiong Jun and Zhao Kongming. Xiong Jun had a fatigued expression and his eyes were closed. His tanned skin had turned extremely pale, as if he could die at any moment.

"So this is what he's been doing. This is a method to forcefully take another person's Natural Body. While this method is useless to peak-level Natural Bodies, he can extract some of the Barbaric Body's essence. Of course, the price will be Xiong Jun's life," said Little Cat between curses, clearly very upset.

Long Chen did not care how strong the other party was at this point. After barging into the room, he punched the wooden tub. It exploded with a loud *boom*, and the liquid sprayed in all directions. Long Chen was prepared, so when the tub exploded, he immediately pulled Xiong Jun and placed him in the Primordial Realm.

The medicinal liquid rained down and ricocheted off Long Chen's body. Zhao Kongming had been focused on absorbing the Barbaric Body, so he did not notice Long Chen until Xiong Jun was snatched away.

“You?” Zhao Kongming looked at Long Chen with surprise. He had a faint memory that Long Chen and Xiong Jun knew each other. But Long Chen was only at the Second Heavenly Martial Stage, so how dare he come to interrupt his business?

“Hey, brat, hand Xiong Jun back if you know what’s good for you. Or else ...” Zhao Kongming knew that this matter couldn’t spread, so he threatened Long Chen. He had only taken a bit of what Xiong Jun had to offer, so how could he be willing to let Long Chen take him away?

“Zhao Kongming, I’ll wait for you outside Scarlet Water City. Come if you dare.” Long Chen took one cold glance at him, then turned to leave.

“Huh?” Zhao Kongming was stunned. What was Long Chen up to? He was just some nosy kid, so what right did he have to talk to an Underworld Soldier like that?

“Right, I’ve forgotten to tell you one more thing. I was the one who bought the Heavenly Fortune Pill,” Long Chen said when he was at the door. Then he turned into a blood-red ray of light and disappeared from Zhao Kongming’s sight.

If news of this spread throughout Scarlet Water City, it would not benefit Zhao Kongming at all.

Long Chen’s final sentence successfully made Zhao Kongming take him more seriously.

“It was you?” Zhao Kongming finally understood that this brat that he had overlooked seemed to be someone with some capability.

“How dare you interrupt my business! It doesn’t matter how capable you are. I’m going to chop you into ten thousand pieces!” He snickered darkly, then gave chase in the direction Long Chen had gone. Since Long Chen had challenged him, he was sure to be there.

Along the way, Long Chen hurriedly asked Little Cat about Xiong Jun’s condition.

“There’s not much we can do. His life is not in danger, but the guy has taken one-third of his potential. This will greatly impact his future achievements, and it could be a problem for him to reach the Divine Martial Realm. As for his current state, he will fully recover after resting for some time.”

Long Chen pursed his lips without a word.

Xiong Jun was a teenager filled with ambition. He was passionate and sincere about wanting Zhao Kongming as his teacher. Yet he had been hurt severely by the very same person.

The fire of rage burned in Long Chen when he looked at Xiong Jun’s pale face.

Looks like the scheming, massacres, and fighting are all much more intense in the Royal Territories compared to the Ten Thousand Nations Territory.

Long Chen finally understood this.

The only way one could live well was by killing. They could only rely on themselves.

After exiting Scarlet Water City, Long Chen continued heading in the same direction as last time. He sensed that Zhao Kongming was catching up, considering he had only used Blood Warp for a brief moment. The Scarlet Water River, the river that flowed through Scarlet Water City, was in front of him. Long Chen followed the river upstream.

Very quickly, Scarlet Water City disappeared behind him. There was no one around, and only the dark grassland surrounded him. When he sensed that Zhao Kongming had caught up, he turned around.

Zhao Kongming had to die, or Long Chen wouldn't be able to extinguish the hatred in his heart. Furthermore, if he did not kill Zhao Kongming, the Barbaric Bear Tribe could end up in trouble.

However, Long Chen did not know exactly how strong this Underworld Soldier was.

Zhao Kongming strode over and looked at him with a smile. When he was ten meters away from Long Chen, he stopped walking and eyed Long Chen with great interest. "What is your name?"

"Is there a point in asking?" Long Chen knew that Zhao Kongming was absolutely confident that he would emerge victorious. With a cold huff, he activated the Dragon Soul Transformation and charged ahead!

That was who Long Chen was—a person who killed decisively!

At the Third Heavenly Martial Stage, he could use the Emperor Vanquishers and the Emperor's Manual!

As he charged forward, red armor covered his whole body, painting him as the vicious king of massacre. The gloves appeared on his hands too!

The glove on the right was golden. It shone and radiated heat. On the left, the glove was pitch-black with a cold and terrifying aura.

Two small domains with a radius of half a meter appeared around his hands, one golden and one black. This was the power of the Emperor Vanquishers.

"Five Emperor Palm!"

Finally, Long Chen activated the power from the Five Emperors' inheritance.

He was going to use three out of the four items the Five Emperors left behind for him. The fighting in the Royal Territories was just too intense; Long Chen had previously thought that it would be a long time before he needed to use these life-saving items.

If he did not have the Five Emperors' treasures, his combat abilities would only be at the Third Heavenly Martial Stage at maximum here. He would not even be able to beat Xiong Jun. This showed that he had made the right decision to work hard for the Five Emperors' treasures.

"What are those gloves? They're Divine-tier!"

When Long Chen took out the Emperor Vanquishers, Zhao Kongming's eyes shone with greed. The powerful aura that erupted from Long Chen's body was getting very close to Zhao Kongming, and this was also unbelievable to him!

Of course, the thing that attracted Zhao Kongming most was Long Chen's eye-catching Divine-tier weapons—the Emperor Vanquishers!

Initially, he only wanted to chase after Long Chen and snatch Xiong Jun back, then kill this troublesome brat. He had not expected such an amazing opportunity to present itself before him.

Thank you so much for bringing me such amazing luck! First it was the Barbaric Body, now Divine-tier gloves. This is my ticket to fame and fortune! Seeing as you're treating me so well, I'll give you a swift death.

Zhao Kongming had always been the type to hide his ambitions. He had been an Underworld Soldier for a long time, but was always ranked low. This was his chance to rise up.

He was usually a calm man, but he was starting to go crazy from the temptation in front of him.

How many people could remain sane in front of a Divine-tier weapon? This weapon was in the hands of a teenager he could easily kill, so how could it not drive him crazy?

If the mayor were here, he would also be like this.

Zhao Kongming's emotions were in Long Chen's hands.

"You're looking for death." Long Chen laughed coldly. His energy had surged to its peak and his essence was equivalent to that of a peak Fifth Heavenly Martial Stage cultivator. With the Yin Yang Sword Soul and a weapon like the Emperor Vanquishers, it was actually possible for him to kill his opponent!

“Tyrannosaurus Punch!”

Tip: You can use left, right keyboard keys to browse between chapters.

Long Chen’s astonishing talent enabled him to successfully use the Tyrannosaurus Punch after just a few days of studying it. A hot, golden Tyrannosaurus fist seal shot out of his right glove at Zhao Kongming!

This is powerful! Zhao Kongming gasped and quickly retreated. The Underworld Armor materialized on his body and wrapped around him tightly. This suit of armor greatly strengthened his defensive abilities and even boosted his attacking power.

“Nine Hells Finger!” While he retreated, a black whirlpool appeared on Zhao Kongming’s finger. Nine rays of finger attacks blasted out of the black whirlpool, withstanding the force of the Tyrannosaurus Punch!

Why is his punching technique so familiar? Isn’t this the mayor’s signature technique? But why does it feel different, like it’s stronger? It should be because of the gloves!

Zhao Kongming drooled over the Emperor Vanquishers even more.

What a waste for such an excellent weapon to be in this brat’s hands.

“Break!” The Nine Hells Finger was the first finger technique he received after joining the Underworld Soldiers, and it was famous for its sharp and penetrative properties. Zhao Kongming had only reached the peak level of mastery after studying it for many years. Every finger attack that shot out turned into black air currents that collided with Long Chen’s Tyrannosaurus Punch!

Every gust was a huge blow to the Tyrannosaurus Punch!

Think you can defeat the Tyrannosaurus Punch with just that? There was a cold flash in Long Chen’s eyes, and he continued to charge ahead. He swung his other arm and punched, then another Tyrannosaurus Punch of the same magnitude flew out. However, this time, it was a pitch-black fist seal with a chilling aura!

Yin and Yang were contradictory forces. When both Tyrannosaurus Punches collided, they generated a powerful explosion that shot at Zhao Kongming. Dust and sand flew around Long Chen!

Boom!

Zhao Kongming was blasted into the air. The explosion from combining the two Tyrannosaurus Punches was not as simple as one-plus-one-equals-two.

“Interesting.”

After stumbling tens of meters backwards, Long Chen was shocked to find that the man had relied on the Underworld Armor to absorb the force of the attack. Despite that, he was still stumbling clumsily. He had lost to Long Chen in this exchange, a kid who looked like he was only at the Third Heavenly Martial Stage.

How could he have such powerful combat abilities with such a low cultivation level?

“Is it my turn to attack yet?” Long Chen had made the first move in this exchange. To Zhao Kongming, this was just a joke. For the sake of the Emperor Vanquishers, Zhao Kongming wanted to end this fight quickly, so he used the strongest attack he had.

Within the Heavenly Martial Realm, the most effective strategy to deal with a weaker cultivator was to use a domain. With his Seventh Heavenly Martial Stage domain, he could exert an absolutely suppressive force on Long Chen!

Zhao Kongming laughed like a madman as he charged at Long Chen, releasing his immense domain. Zhao Kongming was king in his domain; he could even inject the Royal Qi from the domain into his attack. Using his essence, he would then guide the Royal Qi within his domain to unleash an even stronger attack.

At the same time, the domain would be strong enough to suppress Long Chen completely!

Rumble!

After Zhao Kongming released his domain, a destructive force that felt like a giant mountain pressed on Long Chen’s body. It was not an attack from the front—it came from all directions!

It looks like Zhao Kongming is about to break through to the Eighth Heavenly Martial Stage ...

Long Chen had a deep realization of the strength of his opponent.

If he had reached the Eighth Heavenly Martial Stage, Long Chen would be no match for him, just like the six demons from before. However, Zhao Kongming had not broken through yet, and Long Chen was much stronger than when he first arrived in the Three Royal Territories!

“Blood Devouring Domain!” Long Chen had no time to think. The only way was to fight with everything he had!

“Fat Cat, could you use your magic to help me out?” Long Chen asked in a low voice.

“You’re overestimating me. I haven’t finished absorbing the Emperor Crystals, and he’s much stronger than Qian Canglong. How am I going to hypnotize him with my current strength?” Little Cat lamented resignedly.

Since Little Cat could not help him, Long Chen had no choice but to rely on himself.

Using his domain to suppress Long Chen, Zhao Kongming saw hope.

“What’s this?” Zhao Kongming was fascinated by the Blood Devouring Domain. Long Chen was controlling the Blood Devouring Domain with his Fifth-Earthly Martial Stage essence, so it did not have much effect on an expert on Zhao Kongming’s level. Although the Yin Yang Sword Soul’s comprehension of the Sword Path could boost Long Chen’s combat abilities by ten times, this was not enough to increase his Blood Devouring Domain by one level.

However, the divine technique of the ancestral dragon was not this simple. Long Chen could sense that he had not mastered the entirety of this technique yet.

With a surge of passion, Long Chen gritted his teeth and stood up in Zhao Kongming’s domain. Essence surged within his whole body. He unleashed a roar, then charged at the man. Under the insurmountable pressure, he unleashed the Emperor’s Manual technique.

Zhao Kongming wanted to kill Long Chen as quickly as possible.

“You can still fight back while inside my domain. Not bad.” Zhao Kongming smiled now that he had the upper hand.

He put a hand on the Underworld Armor.

“With you, I don’t need to worry about being injured.” He laughed, and emerald-green runes lit up on the armor. An immense energy swirled in the runes, then flowed into Zhao Kongming’s body.

Rumble, rumble.

The surge of energy in Zhao Kongming’s body made Long Chen furrow his brows.

Divine-tier combat technique?

The odds were not in his favor.

Even the worst Underworld Soldier could get a Divine-tier combat technique.

“You’re lucky! You will be able to experience the Underworld Soldiers’ most famous combat technique, the Killing God Sutra! Eighty percent of Underworld Soldiers know how to use this technique! Countless people have died to it ... You’re just the tiniest, most insignificant one.

“Die!”

Zhao Kongming did not show any mercy. An ice-cold killing intent erupted from him, and it seemed to aggregate the wretched souls of countless victims who wailed by Zhao Kongming’s side. The sky-high energy of resentment and anger turned into a powerful killing Qi that loomed over Long Chen.

Long Chen felt goosebumps all over.

Whoosh ...

An ice-cold gust of wind swept past. Zhao Kongming charged at him from the darkness, just like death itself. He swiped at Long Chen’s neck, and Long Chen’s whole world turned dark. The only things that remained were the violent swipe and the domain pressing on his body!

Zhao Kongming and Qian Canglong were only one cultivation level apart, but this was a huge gap. Long Chen had easily gained the upper hand against Qian Canglong with Little Cat’s help. However, he could not do the same in front of Zhao Kongming!

This swipe was likely an attack from the Killing God Sutra.

“Massacre Claw!”

A cold voice rang out, as if it had come from right next to Long Chen’s ear.

“The Killing God Sutra is nothing compared to the Ancient Bloodsoul Dragon’s killing Qi!” Under this great pressure, not only was Long Chen not afraid, but he started to laugh loudly.

What’s the matter with him? Zhao Kongming was puzzled. The most important part of the Killing God Sutra was the intimidating effect. The killing intent was meant to scare his opponents. Based on the battles he had fought throughout the years, Zhao Kongming knew that the killing intent radiating from his body was enough to scare the average opponent into wetting their pants. Then, he would kill them very casually. However, Long Chen was not affected by the killing intent at all.

That was because Long Chen was the king in terms of killing intent.

He laughed wildly, then aggregated all his strength in his right fist. Long Chen activated the Emperor's Manual, and then all the dragon essence in his body was converted into emperor essence!

The regal aura of an emperor who ruled the land and the seas erupted from Long Chen. As if he was facing his natural predator, Zhao Kongming's aura was forced back when it was met with the emperor's aura!

The Emperor of Man was the strongest person who ever lived in the whole Ten Thousand Nations Territory's history, and he was also the Five Emperors' master!

The Emperor's Manual contained all his learnings of the Emperor's Path in his lifetime. It contained an innate arrogance that looked down on all other beings. A common elementary Divine-tier combat technique was nothing in front of Long Chen's Emperor's Manual!

"Emperor's Manual—Emperor's Arrival!"

With a roar, Long Chen's simmering aura reached its peak and exploded. A golden fist seal flew out of his hand. Zhao Kongming only saw Long Chen looking regal, and it was as if countless beings were worshiping him. Long Chen's courageous, magnificent aura of an emperor suppressed his Killing God Sutra!

This is also a Divine-tier technique!

With just a brief look, Zhao Kongming confirmed it.

"Kill!" So what if his opponent could use a Divine-tier technique? Long Chen was weaker than himself, and Zhao Kongming had a domain that could suppress him!

The strength of the domain was combined with the strength of the Killing God Sutra!

The exchange between the Massacre Claw and Long Chen's punch was Long Chen's highest-level duel to date. After using the Emperor's Manual just once, he felt like he had used up all the strength in his body. His opponent's domain was just too powerful!

Long Chen had a stronger determination than his opponent, but Zhao Kongming had a better foundation. Zhao Kongming's domain was a huge obstacle for Long Chen's Emperor's Manual.

Tip: You can use left, right keyboard keys to browse between chapters.

There was an explosion. This time, both Long Chen and Zhao Kongming were thrown back. With a dull *thud*, both of them landed and retreated ten steps, forming craters beneath their feet.

If this were in the Ten Thousand Nations Territory, they would not have just formed craters—the whole piece of land would have been destroyed!

This exchange had ended in a draw.

Oh no! This was not a good thing for Long Chen. He had less essence than his opponent, and the Emperor's Arrival technique had almost exhausted all of it. But his opponent still could use his trump card again!

Long Chen stabilized his feet with slightly furrowed brows. Not even ten breaths of time had passed yet, but he would not let himself be at a disadvantage. Therefore, he chose to use Rewind to restore his strength to the way it was before he used the Emperor's Manual.

Under the ancestral dragon's control over the law of time, huge amounts of essence appeared in his body, as if out of thin air.

Long Chen once had a curious idea. He wondered if he could use Rewind on Blood Sacrifice. The activation of that technique required about three to four breaths of time. Then he would use the remaining six breaths' time to unleash at least one attack. With the help of Blood Sacrifice, his attack would be boosted. Not caring if his attack injured his opponent, he could use Rewind to return his body to its state ten breaths ago. Could he avoid the regression in cultivation level and prevent injuring his Martial Soul that way?

He had asked Little Cat before, to which he replied, "In your dreams! You cannot break universal laws. The ancestral dragon may control certain laws, but it is also bound by even higher-level laws, which is the boundless universe itself. The ancestral dragon's powers have a ceiling too. For example, Blood Sacrifice is a very powerful technique. The more powerful the user is, the more impressive the technique will be. If the user didn't end up injured afterwards, wouldn't the Ancient Bloodsoul Dragon far surpass the other ancestral dragons? Therefore, the world had to place limits on the Ancient Bloodsoul Dragon so that it could not use Blood Sacrifice so casually. This is the law of the world. No being can break it, not even the other ancestral dragons. That includes the dragon of time, the Primordial Time Dragon!

"If your logic was correct, you could recover from anything using Rewind. However, even the Primordial Time Dragon was unable to break the laws of this world, so you will need to accept the regression of your cultivation level."

"The world?" Long Chen started to understand. This world, or this universe, was like a boundless cage. Everyone, including the ancestral dragons, was trapped in it.

In that case, the ancestral dragons were also looked down upon by the owner of the cage.

This was just a revelation on Long Chen's part. He was still very, very far from that level. When Long Chen touched that level, he would be very close to the peak.

By relying on Rewind, Long Chen's essence returned to its almost-peak state once more.

Whoosh!

He stabilized himself and he felt his opponent's immense killing intent once more.

The Killing God Sutra was fired at him once again.

He looked up and saw Zhao Kongming charging.

Zhao Kongming was actually even more shocked. He never thought that such a young kid could withstand his Divine-tier combat technique. This was extraordinary.

What cultivation level is he at? The Third Heavenly Martial Stage or the Seventh Heavenly Martial Stage? Zhao Kongming realized he could not tell at all.

Whether it is the Third or Seventh, all I need to do is test him and I will know. If he is at the Third Heavenly Martial Stage, his essence should be used up by now!

With that thought, Zhao Kongming clenched his jaw once more and used the Killing God Sutra!

"Massacre Claw!"

The claw that seemed to tear through the heavens swiped at Long Chen once more!

"Emperor's Manual, Emperor's Arrival!"

He threw a punch!

This time, Long Chen used his left fist. It carried earth-shattering power and radiated a chilling aura. A black fist seal as regal as the king of the world shot out at Zhao Kongming!

This attack emptied Long Chen's essence once more!

However, after his first attack, he was much more familiar with the technique. He managed to force Zhao Kongming back with this attack!

Zhao Kongming tumbled through the air several times, and then he landed.

Almost all of Long Chen's essence was exhausted, and it was the same for Zhao Kongming. He never thought that this duel would be this difficult. Long Chen really was an expert who was on the same level as himself.

Both of them were almost completely spent. They both stood up, panting heavily as they looked at each other.

This guy is about as strong as I am. Long Chen was clear that if neither had any better techniques, then they would continue tiring each other out. Then, if another expert came along, they would reap the benefits of this duel.

After using the same attack twice in a row, Long Chen felt dehydrated and weakened. However, fighting at the brink of death also filled him with energy. Strong battle spirit surged in his weakened body, and the world in front of his eyes turned blood-red!

"Kill!"

A dragon-like roar was unleashed from Long Chen's mouth!

This duel had made his scalp go numb from anxiety. It had been a long time since he had met such an equal opponent. This triggered all his potential. A blood-red dragon appeared on every muscle, tendon, and bone in his body.

"I will not end this fucking fight until either you or I die!"

Zhao Kongming knew that this fight would only result in a stalemate, but with such great temptations before him, he chose to fight to the end. Both cultivators with almost-exhausted essence continued to fight for a while until they separated once more, more tired than before. However, the blood-red desire to fight in Long Chen's eyes did not diminish at all.

Long Chen's understanding of the Heavenly Martial Realm deepened greatly through this fight against Zhao Kongming.

I can't use Heavenly Fortune Pills over and over. Plus, high-quality Heavenly Fortune Pills are worth at least a hundred thousand Emperor Crystals. I can't afford that. If I study the Heavenly Martial Fist Manual slowly, it'll probably take me at least thirty years to reach the Divine Martial Realm!

No! I cannot wait thirty years! I must become stronger!

A scream directed at the heavens erupted from his body.

During this intense fight against Zhao Kongming, Long Chen realized that something was happening to the mysterious dragon jade in his sea of consciousness.

The Dragon Jade Pendant's eye lit up for a very brief moment, as if it had opened like a real eye, and Long Chen felt a tremble in the depths of his soul. That drop of ancestral dragon blood also trembled, but it only calmed down after a long time.

This momentary distraction almost made Long Chen get hit by Zhao Kongming's attack!

What happened? After the dragon jade's eyes closed, the gray ball in the Primordial Realm, the True Martial Overlord Soul, started moving too. The small, gray ball flew out of the Primordial Realm on its own, and a huge force blasted Zhao Kongming back.

"What's that ..."

The ball floated in front of Long Chen, then approached the spot between Long Chen's eyebrows. Long Chen sensed that he could not move his body at all, and Zhao Kongming could not approach either.

"What is that thing?" Zhao Kongming was stunned. If it was so powerful, then it was surely some extraordinary treasure too.

Long Chen did not know what was going on either.

He could not move, so all he could do was watch the True Martial Overlord Soul in stunned silence. It was just like the Primordial Dragon Talisman before—Long Chen could not fight back at all as it entered his head. Once it had completely merged with him, Long Chen felt like he had an extra eye.

The gray ball turned into a gray eyeball between his brows. It connected with his tendons, veins, bones, and muscles, thus becoming part of his body. He even felt like the gray eyeball could communicate with his Martial Soul, as if there was an invisible thread between them.

What is ...

When Long Chen did not activate the gray eyeball, there would only be a gray, vertical line between his brows. But when he opened his third eye, the vertical line would split open to reveal a third eye. Within the third eye was a faint gray human-shaped silhouette.

When it was completely merged with him, Long Chen felt himself change.

When he looked through the new eye, it was as if the whole world had become clearer. He could now see many things that were previously too tiny to see.

Most importantly, Zhao Kongming, who was charging at him, became slower and slower until Long Chen could analyze his every action. He could even see the flow of his essence inside his body.

What's going on? What are the functions of the True Martial Overlord Soul?

While Long Chen was asking himself these questions, his opponent approached him. He was forced to fight again after a brief respite.

Very soon, he understood what extraordinary functions the True Martial Overlord Soul had.

While he fought, he could analyze every movement and essence flow of his opponent. It was just like having a mentor while he studied the Heavenly Martial Fist Manual, and this mentor was teaching him how to cultivate through dueling.

While he fought his opponent, he had a feeling like he was quickly cultivating the Heavenly Martial Fist Manual!

He smiled.

Is my cultivation speed going to increase quickly now?

Tip: You can use left, right keyboard keys to browse between chapters.

The True Martial Overlord Soul was the most mysterious of the Five Emperors' treasures. The Five Emperors had unintentionally gotten this item when they were in the True Martial Territory during ancient times. The six demons had learned about this, and they had waited in the Ancient Graveyard for many years because they wanted it!

It was rumored that the True Martial Overlord Soul was related to the most powerful person in the True Martial Palace—the True Martial Overlord. He was also one of the three main leaders of the Three Royal Territories.

Long Chen only understood how terrifying the Royal Territories were when he arrived. He was already facing difficulties with the Underworld Estate in the Eastern Royal District, and it would be much worse when he faced the core power of the whole Royal Territory, the True Martial Palace!

The True Martial Overlord had lived for more than ten thousand years, and he was the ultimate master who ruled over the territory and was famous across the whole world. He was someone who could control the lives and deaths of billions with just a wave of his hand.

In the past, he did not believe that the True Martial Overlord Soul was related to the True Martial Overlord, but he did now. After the True Martial Overlord Soul had merged into his forehead, his Martial Soul could sense everything it saw. He could now replicate his opponent's understanding of the Martial Path during a duel!

In this manner, Long Chen could progress extremely quickly in his cultivation. If he cultivated at normal speed, he would need almost a year to reach the Fourth Heavenly Martial Stage. Now, he could quickly learn the method to achieve a breakthrough and kill Zhao Kongming during the same duel!

With the True Martial Overlord Soul, I will probably progress through the Heavenly Martial Realm and even Divine Martial Realm much more quickly than the best prodigies of the Royal Territories! My five senior brothers have truly given me massive assistance in this aspect.

The average person couldn't even use the True Martial Overlord Soul. Long Chen could use it only because of the Dragon Jade Pendant's control over the True Martial Overlord Soul. Without it, there was no way he could activate such an impressive item when he was merely at the Third Heavenly Martial Stage.

The True Martial Overlord Soul was extraordinary, but it was not ridiculously unbelievable.

Long Chen had absorbed one-hundredth of the Inherited Blood Essence, so his speed of cultivation was comparable to that of the best prodigies of the Eastern Royal District. It was like he was riding a rocket. In just a few years, he was able to catch up to many people in terms of cultivation level, so pursuing Ling Xi was no longer a dream.

When he arrived in the Royal Territories and met all those experts, he felt a little dejected about meeting Ling Xi. The Royal Territories were too large and there were too many experts around. Meanwhile, he was just a tiny person. Rising through the ranks to become the ultimate master and get Ling Xi felt like a very difficult task.

Even though he was a Dragon Warrior, it could've taken him decades, or even a century!

How could one become the ultimate master without spending hundreds or even thousands of years in the Royal Territories? Long Chen's cultivation speed was not slow, but he was still not satisfied.

Therefore, the True Martial Overlord Soul offered him great help.

This tiny treasure had determined the future path that Long Chen would take—it would not be a path of cultivation, but a path of battles!

Cultivating the Heavenly Martial Fist Manual could no longer help him progress in cultivation. He only needed to fight other people, and through countless battles, he could replicate the fruits of other people's labor, thus improving his own cultivation quickly!

I can't believe that from today onwards, I'm going to be a fighting machine.

Long Chen smiled bitterly.

Since I need to fight, let's fight! I, Long Chen, am not afraid of anyone. You'll find me in any place where there is a fight!

The passion within him was ignited by the arrival of the True Martial Overlord Soul. He felt like his blood was boiling.

Through the eyeball-like True Martial Overlord Soul, he saw a completely different world. It caused him to look past everything to focus on only one thing: the Martial Path!

Long Chen did not know what was waiting beyond the Three Martial Realms, but he knew that the Three Martial Realms relied on comprehension for a cultivator to advance to the next level!

At the very least, he would not need to worry about progressing through the Heavenly and Divine Martial Realms now.

As long as he could hold on through countless battles, he would become stronger as he encountered stronger opponents!

Zhao Kongming was shocked to see how passionate Long Chen was. After that bizarre phenomenon, Long Chen seemed to have become a different person.

"What was that thing that melted between your brows?" asked Zhao Kongming while launching a crazed attack.

They had exhausted almost all of their essence, so they fought mostly with punches and kicks. Both of them had tough bodies, so the fight was intense.

"Just wait and you shall see," Long Chen said mildly with a small smile. The coldness in his eyes contrasted with the calm smile, confusing Zhao Kongming even further.

"What changed?"

Zhao Kongming had the idea to retreat, but when he thought about the Emperor Vanquishers, he did not want to give up.

"Die!" He shot the Nine Hells Finger at Long Chen.

Zhao Kongming was a Seventh Heavenly Martial Stage cultivator who had mastered the Fourth Heavenly Martial Stage over ten years ago. To Long Chen, he was a huge source of knowledge, and he absorbed it like a starving man. He improved quickly as the fight pushed him to his limit.

After a while, Long Chen smiled.

This was his first time using the True Martial Overlord Soul after the transformation it brought him, but he was already able to reap a huge benefit. He had successfully comprehended the Fourth Heavenly Martial Stage from Zhao Kongming.

The analysis done by the True Martial Overlord Soul was sent to the Martial Soul.

Within his sea of consciousness, his Martial Soul underwent a major change once more. The pure-white Martial Soul turned redder as his cultivation advanced, and now that he was advancing from the Third to the Fourth Heavenly Martial Stage, it became redder once more.

This meant that Long Chen's Martial Soul had progressed by one level.

"Goodbye, old man." Long Chen laughed and quickly retreated. Many Emperor Crystals appeared in his hand. As he fled, he absorbed their energy. When he replenished his spent essence, his cultivation level would surge once more to reach the Fourth Heavenly Martial Stage.

"Think you can run?" Zhao Kongming thought that Long Chen had become afraid and quickly gave chase. When he saw that Long Chen was absorbing Emperor Crystals, he was worried that Long Chen was replenishing his essence and also took out his own.

Both of them ran and replenished their strength at the same time. They ran for a while with Long Chen in the lead, running in circles in the forest. Half a day later, Long Chen had spent a huge quantity of Emperor Crystals to completely elevate his essence to the Fourth Heavenly Martial Stage. Due to the superior amount of essence, he needed vast quantities of Emperor Crystals to progress. Other people needed about a hundred to get to the Fourth Heavenly Martial Stage, but he used more than a thousand. That was equivalent to the price of a Heavenly Fortune Pill.

By the time his strength had mostly recovered, Zhao Kongming had nearly recovered as well. Naturally, Zhao Kongming's confidence also reached its peak.

"Stop!"

Zhao Kongming accelerated to his maximum speed and instantly caught up to Long Chen. He used his Seventh Heavenly Martial Stage domain to suppress him, so that Long Chen could not move at all.

“We’ve been running for a long time. That’s enough. Die, brat.” After chasing Long Chen for such a long time, Zhao Kongming had run out of patience.

Once his strength recovered, he immediately expanded his domain and trapped Long Chen. At the same time, he unleashed the Killing God Sutra once more. The Divine-tier technique erupted with an aggressive aura filled with killing intent that surrounded Long Chen.

As far as Zhao Kongming could tell, Long Chen was absolutely trapped. However, he did not see the smile on Long Chen’s face because Long Chen was facing the other way.

Long Chen was now at the Fourth Heavenly Martial Stage, and it was supplemented by various boosts. Now he could even fight an Eighth Heavenly Martial Stage cultivator!

The Emperor’s Manual gathered in his palm once more, but it was more powerful than his previous usage. The space around his hand even started to tremble.

“Roar!”

When the Killing God Sutra neared Long Chen, he roared furiously. He turned around quickly, then shot a golden fist seal at Zhao Kongming!

“What?!” Zhao Kongming sensed a suffocating aura falling on him. At that moment, it was as if Long Chen was a ruler who looked down on all beings. Even Zhao Kongming himself felt like a lowly creature before him. Although he was attacking with all his might, he was laughably weak.

“Emperor’s Manual, Emperor’s Arrival!”

When he threw the punch, it was as if he was a ruler. A ruler who was worshiped by countless beings. The Killing God Sutra was completely destroyed, and the rippling force landed on Zhao Kongming’s body. The powerful punch shattered Zhao Kongming’s heart!

Zhao Kongming was instantly killed by the force.

His eyes went wide, but they quickly lost their light.

Even in his last moments, he did not know why Long Chen had suddenly gotten stronger. If he was really that strong, why hadn’t Long Chen killed him at the beginning?

He did not understand why, even in death.

Thud! Zhao Kongming’s body collapsed. Long Chen removed Zhao Kongming’s storage ring and put it away.

"It's too bad I destroyed the Underworld Armor. If not, I could have used it," said Long Chen, looking at the broken armor on his foe's body.

He only had about two or three thousand Emperor Crystals left from the initial six thousand. In this land without demonic beasts, he consumed Emperor Crystals very quickly. However, he managed to obtain about twenty thousand from Zhao Kongming. This was enough for him and Little Cat to use for a long time.

Tip: You can use left, right keyboard keys to browse between chapters.

There were many more items in Zhao Kongming's storage ring, such as the Nine Hells Finger. The Killing God Sutra was not inside, so Long Chen guessed that the Underworld Soldiers strictly controlled the flow of information regarding advanced combat techniques. Therefore, material for techniques like that were not freely available.

As Long Chen's strength increased, the Primordial Realm grew larger. Zhao Kongming's belongings did not take up much space there. After taking his belongings, Long Chen burned his corpse to destroy the evidence. If it was discovered that he had killed an Underworld Soldier, it would be a tragedy for him.

There were ninety million Underworld Soldiers, and Zhao Kongming was the weakest type. Based on what the six demons had said, there were likely many Divine Martial Realm cultivators within their ranks. If Long Chen fought them, it would be like striking a rock with an egg.

Let's hope Xiong Jun will be fine. At least I have avenged him. Long Chen checked on Xiong Jun in the Primordial Realm. He was still unconscious.

If I send him back to the Barbaric Bear Tribe while he is unconscious, it won't be easy for me to explain myself. Let's wait until he's awake.

There were many spiritual herbs and pills in Zhao Kongming's storage ring. Long Chen found a light-green pill that radiated life force. It was likely a pill that was important for treating injuries.

"That's a Revitalization Pill. It can treat injuries. It looks like Zhao Kongming has many, so just feed them to the kid," said Little Cat with a yawn.

"Alright!"

Long Chen nodded and fed Xiong Jun the Revitalization Pill. Then he lifted the muscular teenager's head and used his essence to help him cultivate the pill. After half a day and digesting three Revitalization Pills, Xiong Jun's color improved, and he slowly regained consciousness.

However, what Zhao Kongming had taken away could never be taken back. Every teenager had a dream about the Martial Path, but Xiong Jun would have to face a very brutal reality.

Although his external wounds were healed, he could not fight for the moment. He needed to rest for a very long time before his injuries healed completely.

Xiong Jun's eyes opened. When he saw Long Chen in front of him, he was confused.

"Am I dead?" Xiong Jun asked, stunned.

"I'll take you back to the Barbaric Bear Tribe. We can talk on the way." Long Chen lifted the muscular teenager and placed him on his shoulder. In the beginning, they did not talk. Xiong Jun looked around, then he pinched himself and confirmed that he was not dead yet.

"Where's Zhao Kongming? Didn't he want to take my Barbaric Body?" he asked hoarsely.

"Let's not talk about him. I've taken you out of Scarlet Water City. After you get back, you just need to cultivate with peace of mind. Once you heal, you can still become strong."

"Oh." Xiong Jun nodded. Although this was a traumatic event to him and he had suffered huge losses, it had allowed him to grow.

"Thank you."

Long Chen had rescued him from Scarlet Water City, making it the third time he had saved Xiong Jun's life. However, he was a little puzzled. Considering Long Chen's strength, how had he rescued him from Zhao Kongming?

And where was Zhao Kongming now?

Xiong Jun had many questions.

Long Chen had been to the Barbaric Bear Tribe before, so it didn't take long to get there. It was located on a large piece of flat land there with fertile resources and thick Royal Qi. It was a good place to cultivate.

When they arrived, alert members of the tribe rushed out with surging essence and fierce glares directed at Long Chen. When they saw Long Chen carrying Xiong Jun, they were shocked and asked, “Young Master Xiong Jun, what happened? Weren’t you taken in by the Underworld Soldier as a disciple?”

Xiong Jun replied, “Let’s talk about that later. Is my father here?”

The other few people stuttered, as if there were certain things they could not say because Long Chen was there. Long Chen then spotted a familiar girl—the tall and beautiful Xiong Wan’er. She initially thought she would never get to meet Long Chen again, and when she saw him, she ran over excitedly, though it turned to shock when she saw Xiong Jun’s condition.

“Jun’er, what happened ...”

“We’ll talk inside,” said Xiong Jun.

Xiong Wan’er led them into the village. The tribesmen were tall and muscular, and even the women were tall. Long Chen was a stranger, so he quickly attracted a lot of attention. He had previously rescued many of the youths, so very soon, news of him saving them spread to the whole village. The tribesmen’s gazes quickly turned very friendly.

Along the way, Xiong Jun told Xiong Wan’er what had happened in a low voice.

After she heard him, she furrowed her brow and said, “Brother Long Chen, I’ll take you guys to a place to rest.”

Xiong Wan’er and Xiong Jun were relatively highly ranked in the tribe, and Long Chen did not see many older men around. There were about three thousand people in the tribe.

They sat in a house made of stone blocks, and after Xiong Jun finished telling his story, Xiong Wan’er inspected him for injuries with great concern. Tears of heartache welled up in her eyes.

“Sister, don’t cry. I’m fine. I’ll be alright after some rest. Brother Long Chen is the one you should check. He’s the one who rescued me.”

Xiong Wan’er was about to kneel in front of Long Chen, but Long Chen had reached the Fourth Heavenly Martial Stage and was stronger than she was. He activated his domain so that she could not kneel.

“Brother Long Chen, thank you so much. You aren’t injured, are you?”

Long Chen looked very energetic and not injured at all.

He smiled and shook his head. "I'm fine."

He looked at Xiong Jun and said, "Rest well. Don't fight for the moment. I have ten Revitalization Pills here. They'll be good for your injuries."

As he spoke, he placed the ten light-green Revitalization Pills in Xiong Jun's hand.

"Revitalization Pills? Aren't these only distributed to Underworld Soldiers? Why do you have them? You can't get these anywhere else ..." Xiong Wan'er gasped with surprise.

"Unless you killed Zhao Kongming ..." Both of them looked at him, stunned.

Long Chen smiled and said, "Don't overthink it. How could I kill someone on Zhao Kongming's level? Use the pills well. I have matters to attend to, so I'll be leaving now."

After taking Xiong Jun home, he had completed his mission.

"No ..." The siblings could not bear to see Long Chen leave so soon after he arrived. However, Long Chen was determined to leave, and they had no choice.

When Long Chen stood up, there was a sudden commotion outside and the trio hurried out. They saw a dozen or so large men covered in blood running into the tribe, shouting. Based on their outfits, these were also Barbaric Bear tribesmen.

"Warriors at the Fifth Heavenly Martial Stage and above, come out! A fierce beast has appeared in the mines. It's very difficult to deal with, so we need everyone to help!" the blood-covered men shouted.

Many middle-aged men ran out of the stone houses, including a fit old man who clearly had a high cultivation level. The tiny Barbaric Bear Tribe had about a dozen Fifth Heavenly Martial Stage cultivators and a Sixth Heavenly Martial Stage old man.

A man with a lot of blood on his shoulder rushed to the old man. "Elder Shi! A feral beast has appeared in the Emperor Crystal mine. The Patriarch and the others need more assistance and requested your help!"

The old man's gaze changed when he heard the news. He immediately led the crowd out of the tribe. When he passed Long Chen, he suddenly stopped.

"Jun'er, aren't you under the Underworld Soldier's mentorship now? Why did you come back?" The old man was cultivating when Xiong Jun arrived, so they had decided not to interrupt him.

"Elder Shi, what mine are they talking about? An Emperor Crystal mine?" Xiong Jun asked, not answering his question.

Xiong Wan'er hurriedly explained, "When we were at Scarlet Water City, our tribesmen discovered an Emperor Crystal mine in Alligator Mountain. Father and the other elders are there."

"And who is this?" This was the tribe's secret, so Elder Shi gave Long Chen a death glare when he noticed that Long Chen could hear them.

"Elder Shi, this is Brother Long Chen. He saved my life three times. Your grandchild was once rescued by him too. The only reason I returned safely was because of him. Go check on the beast, hurry," said Xiong Jun hurriedly, seeing as this was an emergency.

"This is the guy who saved you?" Elder Shi eyed Long Chen up and down. Long Chen was clearly a young man at the Third or Fourth Heavenly Martial Stage, so his cultivation level was similar to that of Xiong Jun and the others. Therefore, this youth couldn't be as miraculous as what Xiong Jun and the others described. Elder Shi suspected that Long Chen was using some trick and scheming something.

"Considering your cultivation level, how could you have saved them? I think you're pulling some trick, brat! Are you eyeing the Barbaric Bear Tribe's Emperor Crystal mine? Don't you dare!" Elder Shi glared at Long Chen coldly. With Long Chen here, he did not dare leave recklessly.

"Elder Shi, hurry! The Patriarch said that the feral beast is likely a Category Seven Emperor-tier beast. He needs you to help them defeat it!" cried another man in a panic.

Tip: You can use left, right keyboard keys to browse between chapters.

"What? Category Seven Emperor-tier?!" Elder Shi panicked because both sides needed him.

He was prepared to knock Long Chen unconscious so he could deal with him later. However, Long Chen suddenly said, "I'll come with you to check on the Emperor Crystal mine and the feral beast. Maybe I can help. You can ask me questions on the way there. Xiong Jun, your injuries have not healed yet, so stay here."

"Alright!" Xiong Jun nodded.

"Brother Long Chen, I'll go with you," Xiong Wan'er said hopefully, standing next to Long Chen.

Have I judged him wrongly? Elder Shi froze for a second. It was even better that Long Chen wanted to follow him so that he could figure the teenager out.

Along the way, Long Chen and Xiong Wan'er were at the very back of the group when Long Chen asked, "Wan'er, what does 'feral beast' mean?"

This was the true reason why Long Chen had followed them. Furthermore, he had formed a bit of a bond with Wan'er and the others, so if tragedy had struck them, it was only right that he helped them, since he was already here.

"Feral beast?" Xiong Wan'er was used to Long Chen not knowing much about things. Being able to answer Long Chen's questions gave her a sense of achievement, and she did not overthink things.

"What's the difference between demonic beasts and feral beasts?" he asked again.

"At the Earthly Martial Realm and below, there is no difference between them. However, at the King-tier, a portion of demonic beasts can take human form. The demonic beasts in the Desolate Royal Territory can all take human form. Other beasts, however, are unable to. Instead, their animalistic tendencies intensify and they become much more terrifying. Even when they reach the Divine-tier, they still cannot become human. Beasts like that are known as feral beasts, and they are very scary. There are many feral beasts in the True Martial Territory and the Swordsoul Territory."

"I see." Long Chen finally understood.

He thought all demonic beasts could take a human form after reaching the King-tier, but it seemed like that was not the case.

When Elder Shi and the others saw Long Chen and Xiong Wan'er chatting so close to each other, they frowned slightly.

"Wan'er, come here. I have some questions to ask you." Elder Shi waved and slowed down. Xiong Wan'er apologized to Long Chen, then she walked up to Elder Shi.

Before he spoke, she told him about how she met Long Chen and what had happened to Xiong Jun.

"You mean he rescued Jun'er from that Underworld Soldier Zhao Kongming?" Elder Shi asked, shocked.

"Yes. He was the one who brought Jun'er back," said Xiong Wan'er.

"Hmm, is that so? It looks like he has extraordinary combat abilities. However, you cannot trust people just by how they look. Only time will tell of his true intentions. Be careful."

Elder Shi had noticed that Xiong Wan'er seemed to admire Long Chen, so he hoped that she would rein it in, in case she was tricked by an outsider.

"I understand," said Xiong Wan'er with a chuckle.

Although he had learned a lot about Long Chen from Xiong Wan'er, Elder Shi was still suspicious of him and was constantly on guard. It was not that Long Chen looked malicious, but there were just too many people in this world who were good at disguises.

Elder Shi could not be careless about this.

I'll let this rest for now. After we deal with the feral beast, I'll discuss about the mine with the Patriarch. This information must not leak out, or the Barbaric Bear Tribe will be in mortal danger.

In the blink of an eye, Alligator Mountain appeared in front of Long Chen. It was part of a lush, green mountain range, and Long Chen saw that it looked like a gigantic green alligator laying on the ground.

"We're here."

When he approached Alligator Mountain, Long Chen sensed a bloody, violent aura. The source was likely the feral beast.

"Go rescue them!" shouted Elder Qi, then he charged along with the crowd of warriors through the patch of forest. Beyond the forest, there was an empty patch of land, which was at the foot of Alligator Mountain. Opposite the piece of land at the base of Alligator Mountain was a man-made mining cave where they likely mined Emperor Crystals.

The most eye-catching thing was not the mine, but the large and bloody feral beast in front of the cave.

The feral beast was not large, but it looked particularly fierce. Long Chen had never seen a beast like that before. It was a blood-red lizard covered in blood-red scales, and it had eight arms in total. Its long, blood-red tail was covered in sharp spikes, and two sharp and large rows of teeth could be seen in its jaws. Based on the glint of its teeth, they were equivalent to elementary Emperor-tier weapons.

This beast radiated a thick, bloody aura and heavy killing intent. It was no wonder it was called a feral beast.

"That's an ... Eight-Armed Blood Lizard!"

When Xiong Wan'er saw the bumpy-skinned, blood-red lizard, she hurriedly took two steps back and said with a pale face, "I've seen this in the tribal records. This is a Category Seven Emperor-tier beast with terrifying strength. It is very violent, and it is considered strong among beasts of its tier. Why would it appear here?"

“Father!” she shouted anxiously.

Many men were fighting the terrifying Eight-Armed Blood Lizard together. It kept swiping its eight claws and long tail. Every time it swung its tail, it was a terrifying attack to the people around it!

Xiong Wan'er's father was the leader of the tribe, so he was surely there too.

When Elder Shi saw that it was an Eight-Armed Blood Lizard, he had no time to watch Long Chen. He left a Fifth Heavenly Martial Stage man to protect Xiong Wan'er, then the group of fresh fighters hurriedly rushed over to the beast!

There were originally a dozen or so people, and now another batch of a dozen or so joined them. The Barbaric Bear Tribe's combat ability increased greatly. The strongest person present was Elder Shi, who was at the Sixth Heavenly Martial Stage, and a muscular middle-aged man who looked like Xiong Jun. However, he had a full beard, was covered in blood, and had a sharp gaze.

“Kill!”

Deafening war cries sounded.

The thirty-plus tribe members all unleashed attacks against the beast. However, attacks strong enough to kill a Fifth Heavenly Martial Stage cultivator did not have much effect on the Eight-Armed Blood Lizard's thick armor. They could only blast off its scales after several consecutive attacks, and even though the lizard lost a huge chunk of flesh, it was largely unaffected.

“Damn it! Is this beast trying to destroy the Barbaric Bear Tribe?” Xiong Jun's father, Xiong Zhan, roared with rage. He rushed to the front of the lizard, attracting its attention, and threw consecutive punches at its head, breaking its scales. He was the one inflicting the most damage.

Elder Shi's arrival lessened his burden. If he had not come, these people would have died here!

“Roar!”

The Eight-Armed Blood Lizard roared with fury. It attacked using its eight muscular arms and claws, as well as its spine-covered tail. As it attacked the humans in a crazed manner, more and more people were injured, and many even died.

Every Fifth Heavenly Martial Stage cultivator was a pillar of the Barbaric Bear Tribe. After about two hours of fighting, ten out of the group of thirty-plus had died. The tribe had suffered huge losses from this excursion.

Xiong Wan'er's eyes filled with tears as she watched the bloody fight.

"Father!"

During one of the times the lizard lashed its tail, Xiong Zhan was struck. Blood sprayed out of his mouth, and he tumbled several times on the ground. His body was covered in blood, but despite the severe injury, he climbed onto his feet and reentered the fight. Without him occupying the lizard, two more people died from the beast's attacks.

"Father, let's retreat. Let's abandon the Emperor Crystal mine! The lives of our tribesmen are more important. We've lost this time!" screamed Xiong Wan'er with tears in her eyes. Her heart ached when she saw her tribesmen die.

"Fall back! Everyone, leave this place! I'll cover for you!"

Xiong Zhan gritted his teeth, but he still listened to his daughter's suggestion. He was unwilling to go, but what choice did he have? His eyes were filled with tears and his sweat was mixed with blood.

When the lizard appeared, Xiong Zhan knew that they did not stand a chance. However, he insisted on fighting because the refusal to submit flowed in the Barbaric Bear Tribe's veins!

However, he still had to submit in the face of absolute power!

After Xiong Zhan's desperate shout, although the other people were also unwilling, they had no choice but to leave quickly. They swarmed in Long Chen's direction!

Elder Shi did not leave, but instead fought alongside Xiong Zhan to cover for the others. With Elder Shi helping him, Xiong Zhan would not be killed.

"Everyone, go back to the village! Elder Shi and I will return later!"

Their job was to lure the Eight-Armed Blood Lizard away.

"Brother Long Chen, let's go!" Xiong Wan'er had to leave too. The only ones who could cover for them were Xiong Zhan and Elder Shi.

Xiong Wan'er pulled on Long Chen's arm, but Long Chen gently pushed her away. He thought for a moment and decided to do something. Perhaps fighting this beast would not be useful in advancing his cultivation level, but the Barbaric Bear Tribe was unwilling to abandon the mine. Since Long Chen was here and he had witnessed the casualties, he decided to help them.

Tip: You can use left, right keyboard keys to browse between chapters.

He treated this as his last favor to Xiong Wan'er. After settling this matter, he would surely leave.

Therefore, when Xiong Wan'er urged him to flee, not only did he not leave, but he even strode towards the Eight-Armed Blood Lizard. When everyone was fleeing for their lives, they all saw Long Chen going against the crowd.

The people who were running turned to look at the stranger.

"What's he doing?"

"Is he looking for death?"

"Damn it. The Patriarch and Elder Shi are both covering for us. What if he causes trouble and affects their safety?"

"Brother Long Chen ..." Xiong Wan'er stood frozen. Long Chen had left too quickly and disappeared. When she located him, he was already fast-approaching the beast!

Everyone wanted to know what he wanted to do.

Long Chen acted decisively. He ran very quickly and activated his Dragon Soul Transformation along the way. His full body of red scales looked quite similar to the lizard, but it was a lot more sophisticated.

He had to use his strongest techniques against such a powerful feral beast. With the boost of the Yin-Yang Sword Soul and the Five Emperor Palm, his strength reached its peak. Then, using the Emperor Vanquishers, he unleashed the Emperor's Manual!

A ray of light shot past Elder Shi and Xiong Zhan. The ray of blood-red light stunned the both of them. It had shot by so fast that they had no time to react.

Then a regal aura descended from the sky!

"Emperor's Manual, Emperor's Arrival!"

Under everyone's stunned gazes, Long Chen punched the Eight-Armed Blood Lizard's head, and the gigantic beast let out an earth-shaking scream. All the scales on its body trembled, then there was an explosion. Hundreds of thousands of scales suddenly exploded in all directions and massive amounts of fresh blood sprayed into the air!

The beast's cries of agony stopped. The gigantic body instantly lost its breath. Having lost its scales, it turned into a large pile of soft flesh, and the corpse fell limply on the ground. Dust and sand flew everywhere.

Without saying a word, Long Chen put the Eight-Armed Blood Lizard in the Primordial Realm. The blood of the feral beast could prove useful to him. For example, during his fight against Zhao Kongming, he would not have needed Emperor Crystals if he had beast blood. Instead, he could use beast blood to recover his essence.

By the time the corpse disappeared completely, everyone's jaws were on the ground.

Long Chen deactivated his Dragon Soul Transformation and returned to his Fourth Heavenly Martial Stage level and stood on the ground. Then he turned around casually.

"Who is that guy?" Many people, including Xiong Zhan and Elder Shi, did not know who the person who had saved their lives was.

When the smoke cleared, Elder Shi could finally see the person clearly. And when he saw Long Chen's face, due to his internal injuries, blood almost sprayed out of his mouth.

The strength that Long Chen had displayed just now was utterly unimaginable. He had killed a Category Seven Emperor-tier feral beast in just one strike, meaning he was likely an Eighth Heavenly Martial Stage cultivator who used some method to hide his strength. Elder Shi recalled his suspicion towards Long Chen. When he realized that he had suspected a very generous person, the old man's face reddened.

When he looked at Long Chen, he had the urge to hide in a hole.

"Brother Long Chen!" Xiong Wan'er ran up to Long Chen, and when she saw that he was not injured at all, she froze. "You're actually that strong? This means you're stronger than even Zhao Kongming, and he ..."

"Don't say it." Since she had guessed it, Long Chen did not hide it from her. He trusted that she would not tell anyone, since she was a good girl.

The other people crowded around him. Xiong Zhan had never met Long Chen before, and he hurriedly led everyone to kneel in front of him, saying, "Thank you for saving our lives, brother! I, Xiong Zhan, sincerely thank you!"

"Please get up. It was nothing. Plus, Wan'er and Xiong Jun are good friends of mine. This was only right," said Long Chen as he hurriedly helped Xiong Jun up.

"You know Wan'er and Jun'er?" Xiong Zhan froze. He did not know that his children knew such an impressive character.

Next to him, Elder Shi coughed drily. His face was a little red when he briefly explained what had happened to Xiong Zhan.

"I see that you've already saved many people from the Barbaric Bear Tribe. I am not very good with words, but in the future, just tell me if you need any help. We will surely help you, even if we must risk our lives!" said Xiong Zhan emotionally as he looked at Long Chen.

The tribe owed the teenager far too much.

"Why don't you take half of the Emperor Crystals from this mine? Half of it is more than ten thousand crystals," Xiong Zhan said without a hint of hesitation.

If it was not for Long Chen, his son would have been dead by now.

Although some of the other people were pained by this offer, they did not say anything.

"I think you should just let him marry Miss Wan'er," said a middle-aged man with amusement.

"Uncle, please do not utter such nonsense." Xiong Wan'er knew that Long Chen and she were not destined to be on the same path. She was afraid that Long Chen would be upset by this.

He was already planning to leave, so he said, "I came back mainly to bring Xiong Jun home. I didn't expect to encounter the Eight-Armed Blood Lizard. Now that it is settled, I have other matters to attend to, so I must go. You guys keep the Emperor Crystals. I can't spend that much."

His tone was final, and even if Xiong Zhan insisted, he would still refuse the crystals.

"Brother Long Chen, why are you in a hurry to leave? Why don't you come to the tribe and let us treat you to a warm welcome?" Xiong Wan'er said disappointedly.

"Farewell." Long Chen smiled.

He then looked at Xiong Zhan and asked, "I want to go to the Underworld Estate. May I ask if you have a map?"

"Map?" Xiong Zhan shook his head apologetically and said, "I only have Scarlet Sun City's map. The Underworld Estate is too large, and very few people can travel freely through the whole place. That is why a map of it is rare. If you want to go to the Underworld Estate, you need to first go to Scarlet Sun City. There are many groups of businessmen there who make trips to Underworld City. Underworld City is one of the hundred main cities in the Underworld Estate. If you can get to Underworld City, then going to the Underworld Estate will not be a problem."

"I see. Thank you." Long Chen had a brief idea of where to go.

“This is a map of the route to Scarlet Sun City.” Xiong Zhan hurriedly gave Long Chen what he had on hand.

“Many people gather there to form groups to head to Underworld City together, because too much killing happens along the way and you can die easily. After you reach Scarlet Sun City, go to a place called ‘Heavenly Martial Refuge.’ There, you’ll find people who know how to get to Underworld City.”

Long Chen took the map, skimmed through it, and saw the route he needed to take.

“Goodbye.”

There were many people in this world. Only fate could bring people together. Long Chen had long gotten used to goodbyes anyway. With a smile on his face, he left them and disappeared into the lush, green forest.

“Wan’er, let’s go. Many people died today, and it was all my fault. Let’s carry our dead brothers back to the village. We must conduct their final rites well and move them into the ancestral mausoleum so they can enjoy their afterlife.”

“Oh. Alright ...” Xiong Wan’er’s deep train of thought was interrupted. She glanced longingly in the direction where Long Chen had gone, then started to help her father.

In his current state, Long Chen could almost fight an Eighth Heavenly Martial Stage cultivator directly. Almost. This was because the higher the cultivation level, the larger the gap was between levels. He wasn’t guaranteed to defeat an Eighth Heavenly Martial Stage opponent. That was his limit.

After obtaining the map, he started to travel on the path to Scarlet Sun City.

Although a lot of killing happened along the way, few were threats to him with his current strength.

“If I were using my original cultivation method, I would be hiding and cultivating right now. However, after obtaining the True Martial Overlord Soul, I can level up by fighting and become stronger during battle. I think it would be smart to create more opportunities for myself to fight. I need to go to places like the main cities so that it will be more challenging!”

With a goal in mind, strong confidence filled his gaze.

The True Martial Overlord Soul gave him a chance to advance his cultivation quickly.

“From today onwards, I only have one mission—fighting. I will fight through every fire and step over every pile of bones until I see Ling Xi!”

This was what Long Chen swore on this day.

He released his fist and smiled. He had a feeling that he would see her soon.

After traveling at full speed for twenty-plus days, he could see Scarlet Sun City far ahead of him. He estimated that it was a hundred times the size of Scarlet Water City. The local population was likely tens of times higher than that of Scarlet Water City, totaling up to hundreds of thousands of people.

This was an imposing city sitting on the horizon. He gradually approached the city. There were many groups of businessmen and people making their way through the entrance. Long Chen’s horizons were widened once again. Here, Mech Beasts were very common, likely because the feral beasts were too fierce to be tamed.

Tip: You can use left, right keyboard keys to browse between chapters.

The passersby in this area were all people of some status, so most were riding Mech Beasts. Most of the Mech Beasts were Mech Horses, and although they were not large, they were still strong. Even Zhao Kongming’s Mech Horse could be used for battle.

Large and small Mech Beasts passed by, and they had flickering runes on their bodies. They looked almost like real demonic beasts, and there were even women walking small dogs and cats on leashes as pets.

This alone showed how advanced the Mech Priests were. Even the Scribes and Alchemists were very advanced.

Long Chen was amazed and curious about these new things, and he was about to enter Scarlet Sun City when the ground behind him started trembling. Without even turning his head, he knew that a group of Underworld Soldiers was heading towards them. This was a group of approximately ten soldiers. Long Chen blended into the crowd that was entering the city, and along with the others, he quickly made way for them.

The Underworld Soldiers were all riding Underworld Warhorses and clad in Underworld Armor similar to Zhao Kongming’s outfit. The leader was a young man with a cold expression. He was stronger than the others, and the horse he rode was taller and larger than the rest.

The crowd hurriedly made way for the Underworld Soldiers so they could enter the city unobstructed. After they passed, two middle-aged men in front of Long Chen, one fat

and one thin, started to discuss in low voices. These two had only just reached the Heavenly Martial Realm and were considered average in Scarlet Sun City.

If a family did not have at least one Heavenly Martial Realm cultivator, they would easily be bullied by others.

“That young man just now must be the Squad Sergeant. A Squad Sergeant is at the Eighth Heavenly Martial Stage, and they can lead ten Underworld Soldiers. It’s impressive that he can become a Squad Sergeant at such a young age,” said the fat man.

“It’s nothing special. I have a friend who has been to Underworld City. That place is much more terrifying with five hundred thousand Underworld Soldiers there. There are many soldiers his age who have become Hundred-Sergeants or even Thousand-Sergeants, who lead a thousand people if they have reached the Divine Martial Realm. And the Underworld Soldiers’ General is in Underworld City; he can lead one million Underworld Soldiers.”

“Underworld Soldiers are too powerful. After the Underworld Estate created the Underworld Soldiers, very few people could invade them. I heard that other estates have been taken over by other sects.”

“Other estates? That’s just a rumor. Who has even been to the other estates? Very few people can enter the Underworld Estate anyway, unless they are aristocrats who can use the Underworld Estate’s transporter.”

Long Chen memorized their discussion and did a brief calculation.

A Squad Sergeant can lead ten people and is at the Eighth Heavenly Martial Stage. A Hundred-Sergeant can lead a hundred people and is at the Ninth Heavenly Martial Stage. That’s similar to those demons from before. A Thousand-Sergeant is at the First Divine Martial Stage, and can lead one thousand Underworld Soldiers. Therefore, a General must be at the Fourth Divine Martial Stage!

When they were still alive, the Five Emperors were at the First Divine Martial Stage. I can’t believe I’m encountering a master stronger than anyone in the Ten Thousand Nations Territory’s history so soon. Even a Thousand-Sergeant of the Underworld Soldiers is scary enough. There are so many of them, and they’re on the same level as the Five Emperors.

He was only at the Fourth Heavenly Martial Stage now. Compared to those highly-ranked soldiers, he was tiny.

The people in the Underworld Estate are only going to be stronger. If I go now at my current level, it will be useless. I should go to Underworld City and become stronger, then enter the Underworld Estate only when I am confident enough!

After making his decision, he heard another conversation among the people behind him.

“Sixth Uncle, is the strongest person in Scarlet Sun City at the Divine Martial Realm?”

“Of course. The Scarlet Sun City Lord and a few older members of the main clans, as well as a few Underworld Thousand-Sergeants based in the city, are all experts at the Divine Martial Realm. That’s why you should be cautious when you’re in Scarlet Sun City. Keep a low profile. This is not our tiny village anymore.”

“Oh, I understand. In the future, I want to join the Underworld Soldiers and train in the Underworld Battlefield to become a Divine Martial Realm master. And when I retire, I’ll become the lord of a medium-sized city like this, with hundreds of thousands of people!”

“Hehe. Just focus on the road ahead, child,” Sixth Uncle said to the boy, smiling.

Long Chen had heard an interesting term. The Underworld Battlefield.

The boy was at the Second Heavenly Martial Stage and looked young. Based on his looks, he would be about ten years old in the Ten Thousand Nations Territory. His Sixth Uncle was at the Sixth Heavenly Martial Stage. He had a calm demeanor and was considered strong.

“Hi, guys. I heard the conversation between the two of you, and may I ask what the Underworld Battlefield is? I would also like to join the Underworld Soldiers, though I don’t know if I’ll succeed.” Long Chen acted like a teenager filled with ambition.

“Big Brother, is your dream also to become an Underworld Soldier? Me too. I can tell you about the Underworld Battlefield!” The boy was happy to meet someone with the same interests. He explained, “The Underworld Battlefield is a miniverse attached to the Underworld Estate. You can also say it’s the other side of their world. All one hundred cities under the Underworld Estate have an entrance to the Underworld Battlefield. However, there are even more entrances throughout the estate.”

“The Underworld Battlefield is that huge? What is it for?” asked Long Chen, privately shocked.

This was his first time hearing about such a large miniverse, though he had forgotten about the term “Three Territories and Nine Worlds.” There were nine large miniverses in the Three Royal Territories, each of which were as large as a Royal Territory.

“The kid can’t explain it well. Young man, let me explain.” Sixth Uncle smiled when he saw that Long Chen was a polite person. “The Underworld Battlefield is where the Underworld Estate trains Underworld Soldiers. Only Underworld Soldiers can enter the place. The place not only has endless Underworld Beasts, but there are frequent natural disasters there too. They don’t even stop the soldiers from killing each other there. That place is very dangerous, and many people kill each other over treasures, weapons, and

combat techniques that spawn there. In summary, the Underworld Battlefield is like a place where caged beasts fight.”

“Caged beasts? Why?” asked Long Chen.

“The Underworld Estate has rules. In the outside world, it is forbidden for Underworld Soldiers to kill each other, and those who break the rules are severely punished. However, once they enter the Underworld Battlefield, killing each other is encouraged because those who survive the bloodbath achieve breakthroughs and become true elites. They get more treasures and become stronger. In fact, the Underworld Estate even gives extra rewards to Underworld Soldiers who can prove that they killed their peers. The rules of survival among Underworld Soldiers are far more brutal than ours. Every year, hundreds of thousands, even a million, die on the battlefield. There was one guy from our tribe who enlisted, but we haven’t heard from him in over a decade. He was a good friend of mine. I guess he died there too.” There was pity and sorrow in Sixth Uncle’s eyes.

“A million people die every year?” Long Chen was stunned. “If so many people die, how can the Underworld Soldiers maintain their population of ninety million?”

“Of course they can. Every year, countless people reach the Seventh Heavenly Martial Stage and join the Underworld Soldiers to receive more resources. Despite the killing in the Underworld Battlefield, there’s always fresh blood entering the army. Generation after generation of experts emerge from the bloodbath of the battlefield. You can even say that the Underworld Battlefield has contributed to the current prosperity of the Underworld Soldiers. Underworld City has an entrance to the battlefield, and the strict recruitment test for the Underworld Soldiers is held there.”

“That’s a huge cost.” Long Chen was speechless.

The Underworld Battlefield ... Only true prodigious experts can survive the endless killing. The Underworld Battlefield is connected to the one hundred main cities, including the Underworld Estate’s main estate. Doesn’t that mean that the Underworld Battlefield is the most suitable place for me to go?

The term “Underworld Battlefield” filled Long Chen with passion.

Long Chen confirmed his next goal after talking to Sixth Uncle. He would join the Underworld Soldiers, enter the Underworld Battlefield, and then experience the massacre of hundreds of thousands himself!

Through the endless killing, he would comprehend the Martial Path and his cultivation level would rise like a rocket. He would emerge victorious from countless corpses. Then he would finally be barely able to stand on his own two feet in the Three Royal Territories!

A strong glint of violence appeared in his eyes.

The friendly teenager suddenly looked menacing and violent, causing both Sixth Uncle and the kid to jump in fright and take several steps back. The boy asked in confusion, “Big Brother, are you afraid? I’m not afraid of the Underworld Battlefield. My father said that true masters must pass the test of massacre, or they will not escape the fate of becoming weaklings. I don’t want to become a weakling. I want to lead my tribe to prosperity, so I am not afraid!”

Long Chen buried his emotions, calmed himself, and smiled. “Goodbye, you two. Perhaps our paths may cross again!”

He needed to go to the Heavenly Martial Refuge first. From there, he would follow someone to head to Underworld City, then join the Underworld Soldiers and enter the Underworld Battlefield!

Tip: You can use left, right keyboard keys to browse between chapters.

Chapter 901 - Lady Ji

Chapter 901 - Lady Ji

Once he became strong enough, he would head to the Underworld Estate and travel to the Swordsoul Territory using the Universal Teleporter there. Hopefully, he would already be at the Divine Martial Realm by then!

After saying goodbye to the two, Long Chen talked to a few more people before finally finding where the Heavenly Martial Escort was located.

But Scarlet Sun City was indeed big. Long Chen couldn’t walk that fast due to all the foot traffic, so it took half a day to finally reach the Heavenly Martial Escort at the west gate. He had entered the city from the east gate, so he had to trek through the entire city.

After confirming with some passersby, he finally found the building. The Heavenly Martial Escort was a large building with dark green roof tiles. They reflected the sunlight brilliantly. Long Chen walked past the crowd and entered through the large doors. There were a lot of people inside, and it was very noisy.

Most of the people inside were cultivators looking for companions to travel together. There were also merchant caravans recruiting guards. There were even some rich people trying to find reliable guards to escort them through their journeys. Long Chen looked around the place and decided that it was probably better to find someone to travel with.

The Three Royal Territories were massive, and conflict and murder were a common sight outside of cities.

But Long Chen was disappointed to find that most of the people today were looking for companions to travel to other medium-sized cities. There weren't a lot of people looking for companions to travel to Underworld City. Most of the ones who wanted to go there were already strong, so they didn't need companions.

"Hey, young man! You are only at the Fourth Heavenly Martial Stage. You should stay here quietly. You might lose your life if you go out carelessly."

A group of people laughed at Long Chen and taunted him.

The strongest person in the building was at the Sixth Heavenly Martial Stage. Those at the Seventh Heavenly Martial Stage were already on the level of Underworld Soldiers, so they were rarely seen here.

Long Chen smiled and didn't kill them. He had long grown used to people underestimating him. A cultivator underestimating an opponent would be the cause of their downfall. Even though Long Chen had decided to let them go, he was certain their arrogance would cause their downfall one day.

He suddenly saw a group of people congregating in a corner. Long Chen pushed past the crowd to find an elegant booth. A lady was sitting inside the booth.

She was smiling gently, but her eyes were very sharp. She scanned through the people with a wooden sign placed beside her.

The wooden sign detailed her request. She was recruiting escorts to protect a VIP on the journey to Underworld City. The reward was fifteen hundred Emperor Crystals. The requirement to be her escort was to be at least at the Sixth Heavenly Martial Stage, and she was looking to recruit ten people!

The journey to Underworld City from Scarlet Sun City was indeed further than the routes to the other cities. Because Underworld City was home to a lot of strong cultivators, most cultivators below the Sixth Heavenly Martial Stage didn't want to go there. Fifteen hundred Emperor Crystals was roughly half the net worth of an average Sixth Heavenly Martial Stage cultivator. There would be countless dangers during the journey, so the reward was barely attractive enough.

For the sake of the Emperor Crystals and how beautiful the girl looked, those at the Sixth Heavenly Martial Stage asked her a few questions before accepting her request. Though there weren't a lot of Sixth Heavenly Martial Stage cultivators in the building to begin with, half of the slots were taken within a short amount of time.

The fact that they have that much money to spend ... And she's at the Seventh Heavenly Martial Stage... It feels weird for someone of her caliber to be escorting a single VIP to Underworld City without anyone else prior to this.

Long Chen decided to risk it. He didn't know how to get to Underworld City, and now there was a group that wanted to go there. He decided that he would escape with Blood Warp if anything happened.

Also, he needed to make friends so he could learn more about the Three Royal Territories. He didn't want others knowing that he was from the Ten Thousand Nations Territory, so he couldn't just ask random strangers. Neither Ling Xi nor Xiaolang were here, so he was very lonely. He had no one by his side except for the occasionally pompous Little Cat.

Only strength could give him the freedom to take back his loved ones.

Long Chen observed the lady and saw that she was wearing an inky-green long skirt. Her face wasn't extremely beautiful, but she definitely looked like someone who worked in high management for an influential family.

After deciding to take his chances, Long Chen approached the Lady. Because only those at the Sixth Heavenly Martial Stage had approached her thus far, Long Chen stuck out like a sore thumb when he stepped toward her.

At this point, the lady already had six escorts.

Long Chen's aura was clearly at the Fourth Heavenly Martial Stage, and no one could detect anything special about him. He was far below the requirement of the Sixth Heavenly Martial Stage.

"What is he doing?"

"Is he illiterate? Doesn't he know that the lady is looking for people at the Sixth Heavenly Martial Stage?"

Long Chen's actions made everyone talk about it.

Hearing their conversations, the lady turned and stared at Long Chen. Even though she was smiling, Long Chen still felt her cold gaze sweeping past his body as if she was dissecting him.

But Long Chen wasn't afraid of her. He stood a meter away from her without flinching.

"You are only at the Fourth Heavenly Martial Stage. Why are you here?" Her voice was as melodious as a nightingale.

Long Chen kept it short. "Don't just trust your eyes. If I can defeat someone at the Sixth Heavenly Martial Stage, can I join you?"

Everyone who heard him was in clamor.

"What is he saying?"

"Is he saying that he's stronger than someone at the Sixth Heavenly Martial Stage?"

"That can't be right. The gap between each stage of the Heavenly Martial Realm is massive. How could he defeat a cultivator at the Sixth Heavenly Martial Stage?"

"He's just a lying idiot. Nothing to see here."

Even though everyone was saying that, the lady was interested in Long Chen "Are you telling the truth? You better not regret it."

"I'm telling you this so that you can test me."

Long Chen took a few steps back and looked at her. It was as if he wanted her to fight him.

The lady laughed and waved her hand. "Alright, you can join. The Heavenly Martial Escort is not a place for fights. If you truly have the strength, you can show it to me on our journey. But if you don't have the strength to fight against someone at the Sixth Heavenly Martial Stage, then I won't give you any Emperor Crystals."

Long Chen didn't know why she didn't want to test him, but he didn't care. "Thanks!"

"No need to thank me. I am Lady Ji."

The lady smiled before sitting down again. She gestured for Long Chen to sit with the rest of the escorts that she had recruited.

"What? No way he was accepted just like that."

"She must be taking sides."

Everyone thought the lady would test Long Chen's strength and toss him to the side, but the results were different than what they had thought. Long Chen had instead joined the group just like that.

Everyone else was feeling dissatisfied with this.

“Lady, didn’t you say that you needed someone at the Sixth Heavenly Martial Stage? Why can’t I join you even when I’m at the Fifth Heavenly Martial Stage while he could at the Fourth Heavenly Martial Stage?”

“But you didn’t say that you have the strength to fight against someone at the Sixth Heavenly Martial Stage. He said that he could. I will make an exception for him this time, and only this one time.”

Even though she was smiling, her tone was ice-cold. The youth didn’t know what else to say after hearing her ultimatum.

The other escorts at the Sixth Heavenly Martial Stage were visibly upset when Long Chen sat down.

“How can someone at the Fourth Heavenly Martial Stage get the same amount of money as us? What kind of help could he provide if we have to fight on the journey?”

“I don’t like this.”

The escorts whispered amongst themselves, but none of them dared to express their concerns to Lady Ji, since she was now their employer.

Even so, they distanced themselves from Long Chen.

It was as if it was an insult to sit near him.

Lady Ji did not look at Long Chen even once after recruiting him. She was waiting patiently for others to join. Soon, three others were recruited and she put the wooden sign away. All ten slots had been filled.

Lady Ji was about to give them further instructions when a youth entered the building. “I’ve heard that someone was recruiting people at the Sixth Heavenly Martial Stage and above to protect them on their journey to Underworld City. Is this true? My name is Luo Wei.”

He was a skinny youth with strange, light-green skin. His appearance and aura were eerie enough to warn others to not get close to him. The others stepped back after seeing that he was here. It was clear that he was quite famous in Scarlet Sun City.

“I’m sorry, but as you can see, I’ve recruited all the people I need,” Lady Ji said helplessly.

But everyone knew that she was lying.

“All the slots are filled? Then it will be an easy fix,” Luo Wei said as he scanned the ten people behind Lady Ji. He chose one of the fiercer looking ones and pounced on him like a panther.

He was so fast that he passed by Lady Ji within moments and appeared in front of the youth.

Tip: You can use left, right keyboard keys to browse between chapters.

Chapter 902 - Ah Dong

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The two of them fought viciously, but Luo Wei managed to land a hit on the youth in the end. The youth somersaulted backwards as his blood sprayed in the air. He was already wounded even though the fight was brief.

The crowd gasped in surprise because of Luo Wei's strength. His strength placed him somewhere around the Seventh Heavenly Martial Stage, which was identical to Lady Ji. They were both considered young experts and were qualified to join the Underworld Soldiers.

In just a single move, Luo Wei had defeated the Sixth Heavenly Martial Stage youth to prove himself.

Luo Wei turned and said to Lady Ji, “Does this mean that I can join now? I'm at the Seventh Heavenly Martial Stage, so I have all the right to be your escort.”

Lady Ji waved her hand. “My rule is first come, first serve. I don't care who the strongest is. Leave now, and give my escort some medicine since you hurt him.”

No one had expected Lady Ji to decline Luo Wei. It was unintuitive.

But everyone was now certain that Lady Ji was part of an influential family in Underworld City. She must've seen a lot of people on par with Luo Wei before, so she wasn't fazed by his actions.

“Is that so? You say that you already have ten people, but I only see nine here.”

Luo Wei lunged for the injured youth, and a brilliant, green spear appeared from his palm. To think that Luo Wei was an Armament Warrior!

The green spear was similar to Long Chen's Three Thousand Star Clusters, and it appeared to be equally strong too. It was an advanced Emperor-tier Divine Weapon.

The spear left a trail of deadly, green light in the air as it pierced towards the youth.

Everyone shouted in surprise.

Luo Wei was ruthless. He had already injured the youth and now he wanted to kill him. But only by doing so could Luo Wei join the escort team.

The youth despaired in the face of death.

Suddenly, with a *clink*, another spear crashed into the tip of Luo Wei's spear. Even though it wasn't strong, through exquisite control, it caused Luo Wei's spear to miss the youth. The youth survived by a hair's breadth.

The youth realized that someone had saved him and wasted no time to roll out of danger.

"Who did that?"

Luo Wei was angry. He swung his spear around, but fortunately, the youth had already made his way out of the danger zone.

Everyone looked at the person who had stopped Luo Wei.

The person was none other than Long Chen, who was already putting his spear away.

Everyone was shocked again because they never thought that someone at the Fourth Heavenly Martial Stage would rescue the youth.

The two spears clashed again and sent sparks flying.

"Leave now."

Long Chen was focused on Luo Wei's eerie eyes as he waved at the youth to run away.

"You ..." The youth was grateful. He was one of the escorts who said they should give up on Long Chen if they encountered danger during the journey, but now Long Chen had saved him.

The youth was embarrassed. Long Chen, who was only at the Fourth Heavenly Martial Stage, had saved him even though he was outclassed by Luo Wei! Everyone else had stood around and did nothing.

"Leave if you don't want to die."

Luo Wei would never stop attacking as long as the youth didn't leave.

"Thank you! I will repay you one day!"

The youth was surprisingly smart. He assumed that Long Chen had a way to deal with Luo Wei, or he wouldn't have risked his life fighting Luo Wei for just a stranger.

The youth pushed past the crowd and left immediately.

After the youth left, Long Chen said nothing and returned to the eight other escorts. Everyone was staring at Long Chen with awe.

Based on Long Chen's speed and courage, it was clear that his strength had surpassed the Fourth Heavenly Martial Stage.

Lady Ji smiled as she looked at Long Chen.

She silently gave Long Chen her rating. *He has the aura of an expert. I had a feeling that his strength was beyond the Fourth Heavenly Martial Stage, and I was right! He's also very courageous.*

Luo Wei put his spear away and asked Lady Ji again, "So, can I join now?"

"One person left, and another person joined. Alright, we have ten escorts now. All of you, meet me at the west gate tomorrow morning. I will be waiting for you."

Lady Ji gave no further explanation and left.

Luo Wei then approached Long Chen. "Are you an Armament Warrior?"

"Yes. What about it?"

Even though Long Chen had saved the youth and somewhat humiliated Luo Wei, the latter did not attempt to harass Long Chen at all. Long Chen dismissed it as Luo Wei being cautious after showing how strong he was.

"You use a spear too. We will be traveling for two months, so I hope that we can have a few spars. That said, your spear is really nice."

Having said that, Luo Wei turned and disappeared into the crowd.

"Hey, what's your name? We will be together for the next two months, so let's get to know each other over a meal. How does that sound?" one of the remaining eight escorts suggested.

They had underestimated Long Chen prior to this, but after seeing him saving the youth, they had accepted Long Chen as an expert.

Rather than asking everyone else, the man had directed the question at Long Chen. In reality, the eight of them had long agreed to go out for a drink together.

Long Chen had nothing to do, and it was beneficial to get to know more people, so he smiled and agreed.

“I have nothing much to do, so I don’t mind following my seniors!”

“Don’t call me ‘senior.’ We are all brothers here. I am impressed by your courage. No one else but you stood up to save the youth. I live in this city, so I’m technically the host. Let me treat everyone to a meal today. You can just call me Ah Dong.”

Everyone introduced themselves, and Long Chen memorized their names. Most of them came from the small cities around Scarlet Sun City. All of them were at the Sixth Heavenly Martial Stage and were very young. They were just one stage away from being able to join the Underworld Soldiers.

If they were any older, they wouldn’t be going out and risking their life to travel.

After reaching a restaurant, Long Chen quickly befriended them. Fate had brought them together after traveling for such a long distance, so they were more than happy to call each other brothers. Long Chen also learned that most of them were aiming to become Underworld Soldiers.

“Life is like a game. Living peacefully is boring, and we are all going to die in the end. While everyone wishes to die a bit later, I would prefer to go out like a firework! That’s why I want to join the Underworld Soldiers, to squeeze out every bit of my potential. No one is born a genius. If I work hard, I might become one.”

“That’s natural. Why would we all want to go to Underworld City if we wanted to live peaceful lives?”

“We will go there and cultivate for a few years. Once we reach the Seventh Heavenly Martial Stage, we can join their crazy test. While they do it every month, only the best of the best can join them in the end!”

They then shifted the topic to Long Chen. “Brother Long Chen, do you mind telling us your goal in Underworld City? You don’t have to tell us, but we are just curious. It’s normal for everyone to have a secret.”

Long Chen smiled and downed another cup of wine. “My reason is roughly the same as everyone else’s—head there and join the Underworld Soldiers. But I have no idea how rigorous their test is. I’m fairly certain that I can’t pass it at my stage right now.”

Everyone looked around as they were curious too. Long Chen was mysterious, and none of them knew his true strength.

Ah Dong explained, “The test mainly measures your combat capabilities. If you haven’t reached the Seventh Heavenly Martial Stage but already have the strength to defeat one, you can still join them. There are many Scribes or Mech Priests in the Underworld Soldiers that haven’t reached the Seventh Heavenly Martial Stage but already have the firepower to defeat one.”

Ah Dong then pointed at himself. “I know a bit about inscribing runes. I usually tinker with some weaker ones. But the really strong Scribes can use exceedingly powerful runes that none of us could imagine using.”

“So I can join as long as I can defeat someone at the Seventh Heavenly Martial Stage?”

This was good news to Long Chen because he wouldn’t have to wait until he reached the Seventh Heavenly Martial Stage to become an Underworld Soldier. He could just enter now.

The nine of them ate and drank until the day passed. They rested for a bit before they headed out to the west gate the next morning. After spending a night together, all of them were chummy enough to call each other sworn brothers.

They reached the west gate and found Lady Ji. She had clearly been waiting for them, so they quickly approached her.

On the way, Long Chen looked around and saw an intricate carriage behind Lady Ji. It was clear that the carriage was made for a noble, with various gemstones adorning it.

Pulling the carriage were two snow-white horses. They were taller and bigger than regular horses, and they resembled demonic beasts.

Tip: You can use left, right keyboard keys to browse between chapters.